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January 13, 2012 • No 221

## Vow to fight the shocking child poverty figures on our doorstep

By **Marijke Cox**

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SHOCKING statistics released this week reveal more than one in five children in the borough are struggling below the child poverty line.

And in some parts of Sheppey, that figure rockets to almost half of all youngsters.

Now council chiefs have vowed to ensure the numbers improve and say there are already strategies in place to ease the situation of struggling families – and hoped the potential imminent arrival of wind-turbine giants Vestas to Sheerness would bring a sizeable injection of high-quality employment and wealth to the island.

The findings were published by the Campaign to End Child Poverty.

It found, across Swale, the overall level of child poverty – measured as £12

or less per family member per day – was at 22 per cent, the second worst in the county behind Thanet.

Broken down into wards, the findings were even more concerning.

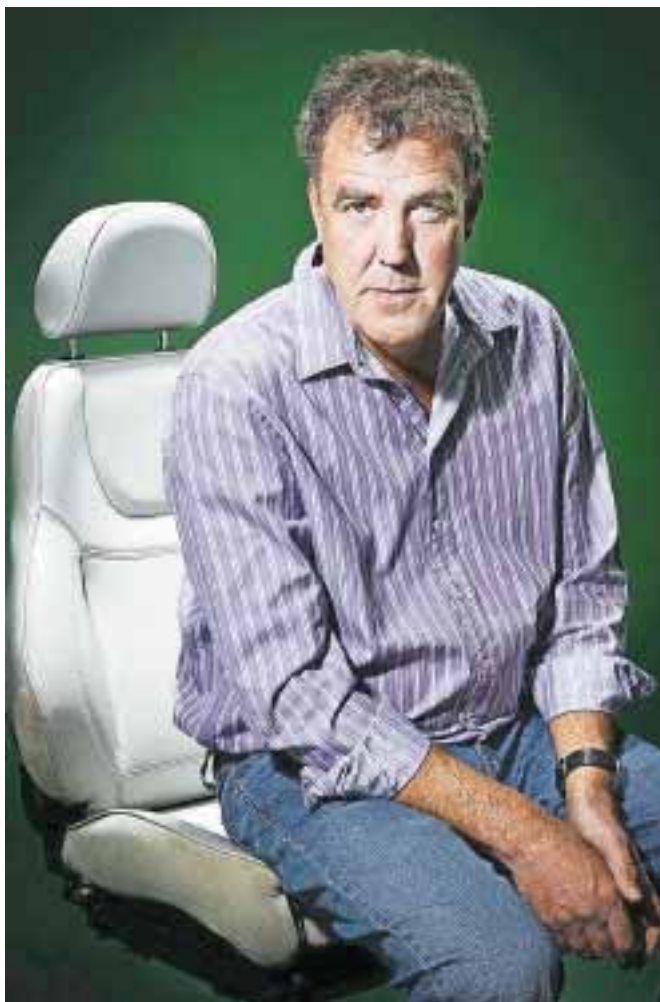
In Sheerness West, the report found a staggering 43 per cent of children are living in child poverty, in Sheerness East 38 per cent and in Leysdown and Warden 35 per cent.

In Queenborough and Halfway, levels were 26 per cent, Murston near Sittingbourne 28 per cent and Milton Regis in Sittingbourne 27 per cent.

The worst figures in the whole of the UK were in Bethnal Green and Bow in London, where child poverty runs at a rate of 51 per cent.

According to the report, the poverty line is breached when, after housing costs, all the household bills and family's spending needs are limited to £12 or

Continued on page 2



## JEREMY DRIVES US MAD

**BIG MOUTH STRIKES AGAIN:** Top Gear star in new row over Sheppey folk **SEE INSIDE**

**FILM**

### A night with The Iron Lady

YOUNG Conservatives will be spending a night in the company of one of the UK's most controversial politicians this weekend, as they head to the big screen to watch The Iron Lady. Organisers hope the trip to watch the movie about Margaret Thatcher will help attract new members. **PAGE 7**

**FUEL**

### Deep coal dig plans granted

A CONTROVERSIAL new method of using coal, so deep beneath the surface of the Thames Estuary it cannot be reached by conventional mines, as a major new energy source, has been given the go-ahead. It means work can take place between Sheerness and Cliffe on Grain. **PAGE 5**

**SPORT**

### Brickies lifted after victory

A LENGTHY winless slump was ended by Sittingbourne last weekend with a terrific win against high-flying Whitehawk.

Building momentum is now the key for Joe Dowley's side, who head to Walton Casuals on Saturday looking to win back-to-back games for the first time this season. **PAGE 67**

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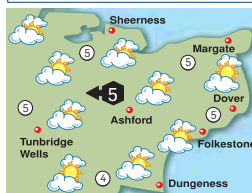
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**TODAY:** It looks set to be dry with some cloud, but also spells of sunshine, rather hazy at times. A gentle easterly wind. Max temp 3-6C (37-43F).

**TODAY'S HIGH TIDE** (Metres)

Dover	01.56	6.7	14.13	6.4
Margate	02.50	4.7	15.21	4.6
St Mary's	07.48	5.6	20.12	5.3

## WEEK AHEAD

Sunday	Max 6C	Min -1C
Monday	Max 6C	Min 0C
Tuesday	Max 9C	Min 3C
Wednesday	Max 8C	Min 4C
Thursday	Max 9C	Min 5C
Friday	Max 9C	Min 4C

Information supplied by **MeteoGroup**

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## REGENERATION

# Regeneration will deliver town centre 'we deserve'

By Chris Britcher

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IT won't be easy, but by the time 2012 bows out, Sittingbourne town centre will be on course to be the "town which Swale deserves".

That's the bullish statement from Swale Borough Council leader Andrew Bowles and which he delivered to Wednesday night's full council meeting – the first of 2012.

In front of a new look cabinet, Cllr Bowles focused on the giant strides taken over the last 12 months towards the regeneration of the town centre.

He said: "We believe that 2012 will, at long last, see some physical signs of the regeneration in the town. Indeed, the end of 2011 saw one very obvious physical sign in the opening of the Sittingbourne Northern Relief Road, which will route heavy goods vehicles servicing the Eurolink Estate away from the town centre in a way that can only be helpful.

"Also at the end of last year we consented, subject to the resolution of outstanding issues, two very large town centre planning applications. The first of these was from Tesco for a large Tesco Extra supermarket and associated large format retail on the site of the old brick-works to the north of the railway.

"The second of these was the application from Essential Land/Morrisons on the Mill Site, providing a Morrisons supermarket and some 150 terraced town houses. We anticipate that both of these will start work shortly, bringing to an end a period of some doubt about both sites and in the fullness of time vastly increasing Sittingbourne's supermarket and associated retail offers.

"We believe this will retain spending power within the borough rather than losing it through leakage to Canterbury, Maidstone, Bluewater and Medway."

It is a key target of the council to reduce the amount of money spent by residents in the borough outside of its borders – and by reinforcing the retail

offering in the middle of Sittingbourne it hopes to achieve just that.

It also hopes that by keeping spending within Swale it will help swell the local economy.

Cllr Bowles adds: "Our other initiative in the town centre is in association with our development partner the Spirit of Sittingbourne, where we aim to regenerate the area to the south of the railway. Although necessarily complicated, the legal side of this is progressing swiftly; heads of terms were signed in November, and we anticipate signing the legally binding development agreement by the end of February.

"The first phase of regeneration will include a much needed boost to the town's leisure and cultural facilities, including a multi-screen cinema along with associated restaurants and leisure uses. The later phases include a 'civic quarter' loosely based around the site of the present library.

"No one can pretend it has been an easy ride, and no one should imagine



OPTIMISTIC: Cllr Andrew Bowles

that the future will be easy either, but I am confident we are moving ahead on a variety of fronts, and that by the end of 2012 we will begin to make Sittingbourne the town which the borough of Swale deserves."

Meanwhile, Cllr Bowles explained changes to the cabinet – announced last week – and to its structure.

Rather than keep to seven cabinet members and three deputy cabinet members, ten full cabinet members will now be in place.

## EMPLOYMENT

## Taking steps to end shockingly high levels of child poverty

Continued from front page

less per family member per day.

The report says: "For many families, especially those reliant on out of work benefits, it can be substantially less.

"Parents will often try and shield their children from some of the impacts of financial hardship and the stigma of poverty.

"Sometimes parents will make sacrifices, such as skipping meals, so they can send their child to school with a warm coat, or out to play in the same popular brand of trainers that their friends have.

"They do not want their children to feel excluded, or bul-

lied. But behind the doors of the home, the hardship is often far more visible and many are deeply trapped in debt."

Swale Borough Council said the levels outlined in the report were expected, particularly in the two Sheerness wards.

A council spokesman said there was a catalogue of work being carried out to tackle deprivation.

"Through physical regeneration jobs will come to the borough and through more employment poverty can be addressed directly," he said.

The spokesman said the Vestas wind turbine manufacturing proposals could see the

creation of 2,000 jobs. A planning application is expected shortly.

He added: "Jobs and learning and skills are the main focuses for the council, showing that Swale is open for business.

"The applications for large supermarkets and associated retail in Sittingbourne will also assist, so bringing jobs to the borough and giving people across Swale the opportunities to get good employment, which are key to tackling this."

Levels of education have increased significantly in recent years in Sheppey.

The council spokesman said: "There are a raft of measures

and future opportunities that will address this child poverty and the council will do all it can to tackle this issue."

Alison Garnham, executive director of the Campaign to End Child Poverty, said the findings of the charity's report painted a stark picture of a "socially segregated Britain" where the life chances of millions of children were being damaged by poverty.

"The Prime Minister should make a new year's resolution to keep his pledge to 'make British poverty history' so that children all over Britain can enjoy a childhood free from poverty," she said.

"Child poverty costs us billions picking up the pieces of damaged lives and unrealised potential, so it's a false economy if we don't prioritise looking after children today.

"Targeting cuts on families will prove both an economic and a social disaster, with businesses losing billions of pounds of demand and families struggling to keep their kids clothed, fed and warm.

"The Government urgently needs a serious plan to stop the rise in unemployment and to create jobs so that young people and parents can get out of the dole queue and into the workplace."

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INSULTS

# Clarkson’s insults about our island are ‘crass and offensive’

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

TOP Gear star Jeremy Clarkson has proved to have an uncanny knack of creating a storm – and this week he brought his rain clouds to Sheppey with insults about the isle’s residents.

The motormouth TV presenter and writer sparked fury in an article in the January issue of the BBC’s Top Gear magazine.

In a piece complaining about the state of the roads getting in and out of Kent, he discusses a recent journey he made to the island and compared residents to illegal immigrants.

He says: “Mostly, the Isle of Sheppey is a caravan site.

“There are thousands and thousands of mobile homes, all of which I suspect belong to former London cabbies, the only people on Earth with the knowledge to get there before it’s time to turn around and come home again.

“And what of the locals? Well, they tend to be the sort of people who arrived in England in the back of a refrigerated truck or clinging to the underside of a Eurostar train.”

The comments sparked anger across the county and a harsh rebuke from Swale Borough Council.

A spokesman said: “We have not seen the full piece that he has written and so any context may have been lost in the reporting.

“However, his comments about the Isle of Sheppey and its residents are crass and have caused offence not just on the island but throughout Kent.

**RUDE:** Jeremy Clarkson made the comments in an article in the BBC’s Top Gear magazine

“The Isle of Sheppey is a wonderful tourist destination and only last year another celebrity, Patsy Palmer, was quoted as saying how much she enjoyed holidaying in Sheppey with her children.

“There is much to love about Sheppey; its award winning beaches, beautiful bird reserves and fantastic landscapes, which have attracted many film crews to the area.

“It is a shame that he did not have more time to explore this and paint a much better picture of this beautiful part of the country.”

Mr Clarkson is, of course, no stranger to controversy. He sparked thousands of complaints at the end of last year for comments made on the BBC’s One Show about striking public sector workers. MP Gordon Henderson this week invited Mr Clarkson to come and visit Swale to have a proper look around.

In the article he says a solution to Kent’s road network problems could be solved by “extending the M20 and the M2 all the way to Parliament Square”.

■ See [www.yourswale.co.uk](http://www.yourswale.co.uk) for more news and sport from the area.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### ➔ Forum crash appeal

POLICE are appealing for witnesses to a car smash in the car park of The Forum which left an 81-year-old woman with leg and head injuries.

The OAP was hit by a car reversing. The female driver stopped and gave initial care but left when an ambulance crew arrived. Police say they now want to speak to her. She is reported to have been driving a large MPV people carrier, possibly black or purple in colour.

### ➔ Squeeze claims stores

NEARLY 20 jobs have been lost after one of Swale’s longest-running businesses shut up shop last week.

Brittain & Hobbs, which had stores in Roman Square, Sittingbourne, and High Street, Sheerness has gone into liquidation, blaming a slump in sales during 2011. The rental side of the business will continue, but the retail side is now in the hands of the liquidators. The stores shut for the final time last Friday, January 6.

### ➔ Your news, your way

KEEP up-to-date with all the latest news and sport from across Swale by logging-on to our website at [www.yourswale.co.uk](http://www.yourswale.co.uk).

The site is updated seven-days-a-week and brings you the biggest news stories from across the borough and access to our free e-editions, where you can read this paper, in full, online. And you can follow us on Twitter too. Simply search @kosmedia and hit the follow button.

HONOUR

# Posthumous honour for ‘perfect ward councillor’

MUCH-LOVED borough councillor Brenda Simpson has been recognised for her long service to the community after it was unanimously approved by Swale council chiefs to confer upon her the title of Honorary Alderwoman.

Mrs Simpson, councillor for Kemsley continually since 1988, died in December.

Her death prompted a slew of tributes and prompted her colleagues to recognise the “valuable service given to the council over the past 23 years”.

To become an Honorary Alderwoman is one of the highest honours the

council can bestow.

Mrs Simpson, who was a former Swale mayor and chairman of the local Conservative group, becomes only the 58th person to have received the title and just the 21st councillor to receive the honour.

Holders of the title receive a number of rights and privileges during their life time, including taking part in civic parades.

The flag at Swale House was flown at half-mast to mark Mrs Simpson’s passing. She died on December 15. A memorial service took place at the end of the year.

A council spokesman

confirmed after Wednesday night’s meeting: “It was unanimously approved that Cllr Simpson be made an Honorary Alderwoman.”

During the meeting a number of councillors, including leader Andrew Bowles, spoke about her dedicated efforts.

At the time of her death, MP Gordon Henderson described Mrs Simpson as the “perfect ward councillor” who “despite being a staunch Conservative, always put the interests of her Kemsley community before party politics” and would be missed by “friend and political foe alike”.

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FUEL

# Row erupts over controversial plan for offshore gas extraction

By Marijke Cox

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

GREEN campaigners have slammed plans to extract gas in the Thames Estuary, claiming the controversial practice will send greenhouse emissions soaring and could contaminate underground water supplies.

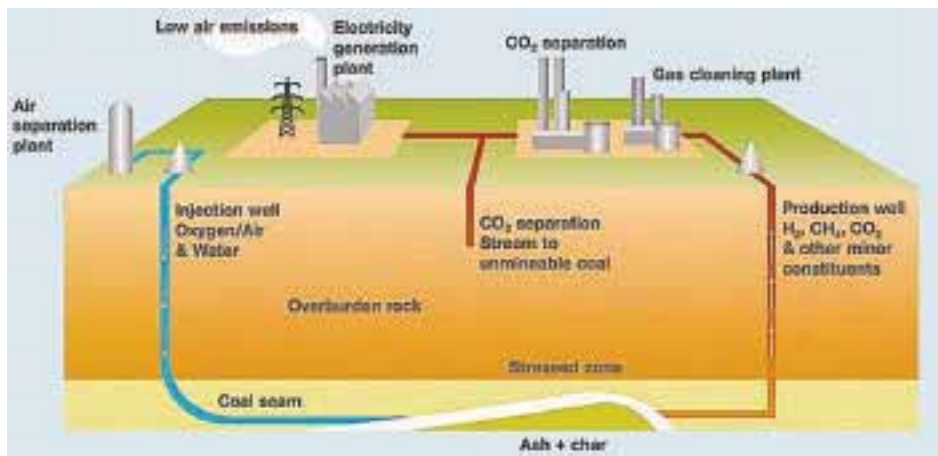
The warning comes after an Australian energy company was given the green light to extract gas in the estuary using a technique poised to make strides in the UK's future energy supply.

It involves drilling down to access rich coal seams too deep for conventional mining to access. One pipe then ignites the coal, while another extracts the gases released and turns them into fuel for power generation. These gases included carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, hydrogen and methane.

Critics say it will keep the UK tied to fossil fuels and prevent the push for alternative, renewable sources of power. Those in favour, and the method has gained support from the Government, point to it being a relatively cheap method of accessing a natural resource.

Riverside Energy was granted a licence by the UK Coal Authority allowing for Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) in the estuary, on an offshore site stretching from Cliffe to Sheerness. It is one of just four sites across the UK.

A spokesman for the firm told this paper: "The area is an excellent location with a thriving industrial infrastructure, much of it already engaged in



power generation.

"Nearby sites include a biomass plant, coal-fired power plant and the National Grid. As yet no geological exploration of the coal has been undertaken to assess complete sustainability for UCG."

Chairman of Riverside Energy Dr John Bishop said there was currently no fixed date for the start of the exploration.

The Environment Agency states that the UK has significant coal reserves that are believed to be suitable for UCG, but which cannot be accessed using conventional methods. It will regulate the process and include monitoring carbon dioxide emissions and health and safety concerns.

The UK Coal Authority said the use of UCG would reduce environmental emissions and ensure security of energy supply "providing a source of clean

energy with minimum greenhouse gas emissions".

Campaigners, however, strongly disagree. They said the use of such a method could create environmental problems and point to incidents elsewhere in the world, such as Wyoming in the US, where the method was blamed for contaminating water supplies – a claim denied by those involved.

Kent Green Party spokesman Steve Dawe said: "Since it is possible to reduce energy demand in this country by 50-60 per cent by increasing energy conservation in our buildings, according to bodies like the Association for the Conservation of Energy and the Tyndall Centre, there is no reason to permit marginal energy activities which increase any type of emissions."

"This is particularly important as UK greenhouse gas

emissions are rising. Our air pollution is so bad the European Court of Justice will be hearing a case to prosecute the UK for failing to keep to the air pollution laws to which our Government previously agreed."

## TECHNIQUE:

The coal is burned underground, with the gas released piped out

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### ➔ Opposition grows

OPPOSITION to plans to build a multi-billion pound international airport hub off the coast of Sheppey is growing.

The Essex Federation of Small Businesses has joined local authorities on the other side of the estuary to oppose the plans put forward by Boris Johnson and a site on the Isle of Grain proposed by Lord Foster. Swale Borough Council, Medway Council and Kent County Council are all against the schemes.

### ➔ Rail route delays

COMMUTERS faced delays between Sittingbourne and Sheerness last weekend after a train broke down on the route.

The incident happened around 8.40pm last Saturday and caused disruption to services for the rest of the evening. A replacement bus service ran in place of trains. Meanwhile, engineering work on rails between Sittingbourne and Herne Bay, which have taken place in the early hours all week, is now complete.

### ➔ Lifeboat's call out

SHEERNESS lifeboat crews were summoned, along with a host of other emergency services, amid reports a woman had thrown herself off Rochester Bridge.

The lifeboat team took to the water, while a rescue helicopter was also summoned at around 8.30pm last Friday night. However, the teams were able to stand down after police confirmed the woman had not jumped and was safe.

FUNDRAISER

## Police make crime pay for charities

FOUR local charities are set to receive a cash windfall after a police auction of lost and seized goods.

They will each receive £500 from a £4,500 cash pot shared out between a total of nine charities across Swale and Maidstone.

Police regularly auction off goods seized in raids with monies raised handed to good causes.

Among those set to pick up a cheque at a presentation evening next Thursday, January 19, will be the Queenborough and Rushenden Gateway, the Freedom Centre in Sheerness, the Events Marshalling Unit, based in Sheppey, the Newington Community Sports Club and the Oliver Smith Appeal – which raises money for the Minster youngster as he looks to raise cash for vital life-saving treatment in Germany.

Dave O'Neil from Events Marshalling Unit – which has provided marshals for a host of public events including the Leysdown, Sheerness and Sittingbourne carnivals – said: "This has come as

a complete surprise and all involved are overwhelmed. Our service is all about helping bring communities together and making sure people are safe at events such as carnivals, bike races and the many other community projects we are involved with."

Newington Community Sports Club's Sharon Funnell added: "We are a small village club, and we have a lot of low income families, so we make sure everything is free of charge for them. This money will help provide more outings and activities."

Superintendent Andy Rabey, deputy divisional commander for the west division explained: "It's a real pleasure to be able to donate this money to these worthy causes. Charities such as these provide such invaluable support to so many people and it's great that we can assist their work and recognise the valuable contribution they make across Kent. I'd like to wish all these charities every success for the future."

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## AWARDS

# Public show their support for 'Kent's food and drink heroes'

PRODUCED in Kent has announced the shortlisted finalists in the Taste of Kent Awards 2012.

The three finalists in each of the 12 publicly voted categories now have a nail-biting wait to hear if they will be amongst the dazzling dozen to lift an award when they attend the glittering gala awards dinner at Oakwood House Hotel, Maidstone, on Friday, March 2.

This year has seen a 20 per cent increase in voting by the public.

Produced in Kent manager Julie Monkman said: "The Taste of Kent Awards seeks to recognise and reward Kent's food and drink heroes. The awards have once again really captured the imagination of the general public and it's great to see the consumers of Kent voting in their thousands for their favourite restaurants, dining pubs and farmers' markets – as well as the food and drink producers behind the



**VOCAL SUPPORT:**  
Produced in Kent's Julie Monkman presenting last year's Taste of Kent Awards

county's award-winning food and drink products.

"With everything from apple ketchup to sloe gin chocolates passing by the judging panel at the end of January, the team will certainly have their taste buds tested as they have to

choose just one winner in each category."

The biggest increases in voting came in the Kent Restaurant of the Year category, which saw a 59 per cent increase in votes, and the Kent Local Food Retailer of the Year, which was

up by a massive 78 per cent.

Now the three best in all 12 categories will come under the scrutiny of an expert panel of judges, mystery shoppers and diners.

To follow the awards visit [www.tasteofkentawards.co.uk](http://www.tasteofkentawards.co.uk).

## PRODUCED IN KENT'S SHORTLIST FOR



**KENT MEAT RETAILER OF THE YEAR:** Butcher of Brogdale, Faversham; Godmersham Game, Canterbury; JC Rook and Son, Ramsgate

**BEST KENTISH BEER:** 1606 Bitter – Old Forge Brewery, Ashford; Gadds No 3 – Ramsgate Brewery, Ramsgate; Master Brew – Shepherd Neame, Faversham

**BEST KENT WINE:** Ortega 2010 – Biddenden Vineyards, Biddenden; English Rose – Chapel Down Winery, Tenterden; Vintage reserve Brut – Chapel Down Winery, Tenterden

**BEST KENT CIDER OR PERRY:** Appley Ever After – Big Three Cider, Hartley, Dartford; Biddenden Strong Kentish Cider – Biddenden Vineyards, Biddenden; Duddas Tun – Pine Trees Farm, Doddington

**BEST KENTISH FRUIT JUICE:** Apple juice – Biddenden Vineyards, Biddenden; Cox/Bramley apple juice – Core Fruit Products, Canterbury; Cox apple juice – Duskins, Canterbury

**KENT LOCAL FOOD RETAILER OF THE YEAR:** Hadlow College Farm Shop, Hadlow; Macknade Fine Foods, Faversham; Mama Feelgoods, Bekesbourne, Canterbury

**KENT SEAFOOD RETAILER OF THE YEAR:** Eddie Gilberts, Ramsgate; Griggs of Hythe, Hythe; Sankey's Tunbridge Wells

**ARTISAN FOOD RETAILER OF THE YEAR:** Simply Ice Cream, Ashford; Taywell Ice Cream, Paddock Wood; Quex Foods, Birchington

**KENT RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR:** Elvey Farm, Pluckley; Marquis of Alkham, Alkham; Mulberry Tree, Boughton Monchelsea

**KENT DINING PUB OF THE YEAR:** The Halfway House, Challock; Pearsons Arms by Richard Phillips, Whitstable; The Plough at Stalisfield Green, Faversham

**KENT FARMERS' MARKET OF THE YEAR:** Cliftonville; Hildenborough; Shipbourne

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## POLITICS

# Young Tories to spend an evening with The Iron Lady



**By Ed Hill**

[ed.hill@archant.co.uk](mailto:ed.hill@archant.co.uk)

SHE was one of the most controversial politicians of the modern era – loved and loathed in equal measure.

And now the borough's young Conservatives are hoping the big screen portrayal of Margaret Thatcher will help swell their ranks.

A group of true blue supporters – known as Conservative Future – will be paying homage to the former Prime Minister with a mass visit to see Meryl Streep's portrayal in *The Iron Lady*, this weekend.

Explains Jess McMahon, 28, chairman of the Sittingbourne and Sheppey branch: "We are trying to get more people into the group and we thought this would be a good thing to do because young people like to go to the cinema."

"I thought this would also be a way for them to learn more about the party and the people involved in it at that time."

Ms McMahon, who also assists local Conservative MP Gordon Henderson with his parliamentary work, admits she was too young to remember Mrs Thatcher in her pomp and her 11-year reign at Westminster – a period which heralded a huge shift in the UK's political landscape.

The film is not without its critics however, with many pointing a critical finger at the way it portrays the former leader as dementia takes hold.

But Ms McMahon remains keen to see the movie: "Obviously I have read the things that have been written about the film but I like to have an

open mind. It will not stop us having our own opinions.

"She did a lot for the country and is known to be one of the best Prime Ministers we have had. I got to know more about the party in recent years so I am looking forward to learning a bit more about her as well."

The Conservative Future

chairman is just making the final arrangements and will be welcoming anyone between the ages of 16 and 30.

The group are hoping to visit the multiplex in Chatham for the movie. To join them email [contact@sittingbournesheppeycf.com](mailto:contact@sittingbournesheppeycf.com) or see [www.sittingbournesheppeycf.com](http://www.sittingbournesheppeycf.com).

LEGENDARY: Meryl Streep plays the ex-PM, Margaret Thatcher

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## ACCIDENT

# Race ace escapes injury after crash as he tweets fans scene of carnage

By Chris Britcher

[chris.britcher@archant.co.uk](mailto:chris.britcher@archant.co.uk)

BRITISH Superbike racer Shane 'Shakey' Byrne had a miraculous escape when he and his family were involved in a multi-car pile-up on Monday.

The racer, who grew up on Sheppey, was involved in the prang, then got out of his mangled car only to be hit by another vehicle.

However, he was not badly injured and a suspected broken ankle turned out to be nothing more than just bruised.

And his ego was left beaten up too after he returned home to find he'd lost his house keys in the crash, forcing him to shell out hundreds of pounds to get a locksmith to come out and let him in to his own home.

The motorcyclist who has twice lifted the British Superbike Championship crown and once competed in MotoGP, broke the news to his fans on social networking site Twitter.



**NARROW ESCAPE:** Shane Byrne had little to toast when he and his family were involved in a multi-car accident

He said: "Bad day..was in a multi car pile up early am, survived that in the pitch black, got out of my van, then got knocked down by another car!!

"Wish I could say I was joking, fortunately wife and children OK, suspected broken ankle turned out to be OK.

"Not that I can really complain after today's escapades,

but we lost the house keys in the crash and just got humped €275 to get in our door!!"

He also Tweeted out a photograph of the tangled mess of the Mercedes Vito vehicle he was driving in (pictured).

The accident is believed to have happened in Spain where he now lives with his Czech wife Petra.



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HOSPICE

## Youngsters bowled over as England cricket stars join charity knees-up

By Chris Britcher

[chris.britcher@archant.co.uk](mailto:chris.britcher@archant.co.uk)

DOZENS of families facing the heart-breaking situation of living with children with a life-limiting illness let their hair down and enjoyed a new year party with a difference last weekend.

Bobbing-based hospice Demelza transformed Detling Showground into a winter wonderland for its children's party on Sunday, giving families who use the vital services it provides a

chance to have some fun with a festive knees-up.

What's more, there was a bit of star-dust sprinkled on the event with England cricket stars Geraint Jones, Rob Key and James Tredwell paying a special visit.

Parents and children had the chance to dance in a disco, play on the Nintendo Wii experience, take part in arts and crafts and try out their football skills in the penalty shoot out organised by the Soccer Elite coaching academy.



**STARS:** Geraint Jones and James Tredwell were among the guests

There were two raffles and the chance to win a teddy bear in the guess the name of the bear competition.

A buffet lunch, entertainment from Mickey the Magician, balloons, party hats and presents completed the party atmosphere.

The event was supported by Sainsbury's, Cadbury, BMW and Kent Conference Centre

Natalie Tegg, head of partnerships said: "A huge thank you goes to everyone who helped support the children's Christmas party and make it a resounding success.

"It was a very special afternoon for all the families who came along and it would not have been possible without all the companies who donated time, gifts or money. They all helped make a real difference."

Debbie Southern whose daughter Molly, nine, goes to Demelza, said of the party: "Lots of fun was had by both young and old alike. A fantastic Christmas party bringing lots of smiles and happiness to lots of children.

"I think the party is important, it allows the children to have fun in a safe environment and allows the parents to relax knowing the whole day is set up around their children's specific needs."

### SUPPORT FOR HOSPICE HEATS UP

ONE of Sittingbourne's biggest firms has pledged to continue its support to Demelza.

Swale Heating, which employs 419 staff across the south east and is headquartered in the town, has provided free maintenance and care of the charity's heating and hot water systems at its Sittingbourne and Eltham centres, while a charity golf day and staff 'dress down' days raised an additional £2,000 for Demelza last year.

Matthew Edwards, Swale Heating's sales director, said: "A year ago we saw that we could do something practical to help Demelza, saving them money and offering peace of mind that we are on call 24 hours a day. I am pleased to say this arrangement will continue in 2012.

"I am also proud of our staff who have made their own contributions

through fundraising events last year. I hope our continued efforts help Demelza carry on its fantastic work."

Donna Wells, Demelza's corporate partnerships manager, said: "It is great news that Swale Heating is continuing its support for Demelza into 2012.

"Not only will this help with our heating costs in our hospices but the efforts by its staff are an appreciated contribution towards our services."

Swale Heating also displays the Demelza logo on each of its 220 engineer vans.

Demelza provides hospice care for over 700 children with life-limiting illnesses and their families across Kent, East Sussex and south east London.

It relies entirely on fundraising, donations and gifts in wills. It costs £7million a year to keep the hospice's services running.

LONDON 2012

## Get involved in Olympic Torch relay events

COMMUNITY groups or organisations across the borough are being urged to help take part in the Olympic Torch relay when it comes to Swale this year.

The torch will pass through Faversham on July 19 en route to the Olympic Stadium and the start of the sporting extravaganza.

Now the Abbey School in Faversham will host a local stakeholder meeting on January 25 at 4pm with the council calling on all groups from Sittingbourne

and Sheppey to attend.

The meeting will provide an update on what the town plans to do for the relay and ascertain who wants to get involved.

Council leader Andrew Bowles said "It is magnificent that the Olympic Torch is going to pass through Faversham and we want to make sure that as many people who want to be involved can be part of the celebrations. The purpose of this meeting will be to

gauge interest and to discuss the many ideas that I am sure will be put forward.

"The types of groups we anticipate wanting to get involved are Local Rotarians, housing associations, sports clubs, community and residents groups."

For more information and to register your attendance at the meeting, contact Martin Goodhew by email on [martingoodhew@swale.gov.uk](mailto:martingoodhew@swale.gov.uk) or on 01795 417399.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## ➔ KCC transport plans

COUNTY councillors were due to discuss progress made on Kent's Growth Without Gridlock scheme at a meeting on Thursday.

As this newspaper went to press, councillors discussed the 20-year transport delivery plan which includes measures to tackle Operation Stack, the A21 dualling from Tonbridge to Pembury and rail improvements for east Kent. Progress on plans for a third Thames Crossing were also being looked at.

## ➔ Channel warfare

A BATTLE of the waves could topple over into the courts following the collapse of ferry firm SeaFrance this week.

Rival firm P&O has threatened to report Eurotunnel to the European Commission if its plan to buy the ships of the insolvent SeaFrance breaches European competition rules. It rapped out the warning after the Channel Tunnel operator revealed it might buy SeaFrance's three ships from the company's administrator.

## ➔ Travellers site plans

MORE than £3 million is to be spent creating a new travellers' site in Maidstone, it has been confirmed.

Officials say the 15 new pitches will help reduce the costs of enforcing against unauthorised sites - estimated to cost local authorities around £18 million a year - and will help the district's shortfall in traveller facilities. KCC has yet to identify the location of the site.

## NETWORKING

# MP unveils line-up of events for 2012 he hopes will help boost businesses

By James Benjamin

[yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk)

MP Gordon Henderson says he will once again stage a series of business events during 2012, in order to give local firms the best chance of success in these difficult times.

Last year he launched the Sittingbourne & Sheppey Link 2 Business initiative, which drew



**MEET AND GREET:** MP Gordon Henderson, left, is making an effort to get to know business people

businesses together to network and share best practice during the economic squeeze.

The Conservative politician said: "Meeting with local businesses through the Sittingbourne & Sheppey Link 2 Business has enabled me to forge good links with them and to gain a better understanding of the problems they face."

"2012 will continue to be a difficult year with businesses struggling financially, however, I am confident that firms will be able to grow and unemployment figures will be reduced once the potential investment opportunities in Sittingbourne and Sheppey start to become reality."

Mr Henderson is planning a programme of visits to businesses throughout the year. In addition, he will continue to hold monthly business breakfasts on the last Friday of each month.

The first of these breakfasts in 2012 will take place on Friday, January 27, at the Hempstead House Hotel in Bapchild, from 8-10am.

Anyone interested in attending should register on the Sittingbourne & Sheppey Link 2 Business website [www.blinkss.co.uk](http://www.blinkss.co.uk) and click on Business Forum, where a full schedule for the year can also be found.

Among other breakfast events scheduled so far are: February 24 - St George's Business Park, Eurolink Industrial Estate; March 30 - Abbey Hotel, Minster; April 27 - Swale Skills Centre, Eurolink Ind. Est; June 29 - Royal Hotel, Sheerness; July 27 - Swale Skills Centre, Eurolink Ind. Est; August 31 - Abbey Hotel, Minster; September 28, St George's Business Park; November 30, Hempstead House Hotel, Bapchild.

In addition, Mr Henderson will be holding a special cream tea reception in the House of Commons on May 22 from 4-6pm for local businesses. Full details of the event will be released over the coming weeks.

The Sittingbourne & Sheppey Link 2 Business website is free to sign up to. Around 132 local businesses are members.

See [www.yourswale.co.uk](http://www.yourswale.co.uk) for more business, community and sport news.

## BUSINESS

## New firms sign up to Science Park

KENT Science Park chiefs say they expect to confirm "a number of agreements" from new tenants for lab and office space over the coming months.

Despite the economic doom and gloom, the park says it enjoyed a boom year during 2011, with a number of new firms moving onto the site.

Businesses on the park now employ more than 1,250 staff - close to half of which live in Swale.

During 2011 it let out more than 28,000sq ft of space split

between 16 companies - nine of which were new tenants and the others expanding their operations on the site.

Newcomers in 2011 included Pfizer spin-out start-up Flexible Lab Solutions, a specialist laboratory equipment rental firm, high-tech heart cell research company Midas Mediscience, food safety testing spin-out from the University of Greenwich, ToxiMet, and renewable energy crop growers Boundless Horizons.

James Speck, site director at Kent Science Park, said:

"Despite the economic uncertainty arising from fears of a double dip recession, the park continues to attract smaller start-ups due to our realistic rental rates and the will to be flexible."

"2011 ended on a very positive note and this has continued into 2012; a number of agreements, taking a further 15,000 sq ft of space, will be completed by spring."

## RESTAURANT

## Doubts over future of local Little Chef diner

A QUESTION mark hangs over the future of the Little Chef restaurant on the Thanet Way at Faversham after the store confirmed it was to close more than a third of its sites.

The chain announced this week it would close 67 of its 161 sites with the loss, in total, of

between 500 and 600 jobs.

All the outlets closing have, says the company, been trading "unprofitably for a number of years".

Little Chef has not confirmed which of its sites are in line for closure.

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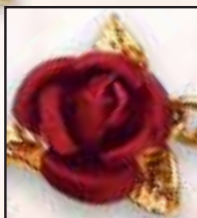
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TUNED IN: Daniel has had thousands of hits on his YouTube site

## MUSIC

## Teen sets up YouTube music channel to help aspiring young local musicians

By Chris Britcher

[chris.britcher@archant.co.uk](mailto:chris.britcher@archant.co.uk)

A TEENAGE student is making a name for himself on the internet after a music channel he set up on YouTube attracted thousands of viewers.

Daniel Lawton, 17, from Bridgewater Road, Sheerness, has set up a dedicated channel on the site and has already had more than 5,000 hits.

The channel – ACTV – was set up as a way of promoting acoustic music, and the first batch of videos all showcase performers from Sittingbourne and Sheppey.

Mr Lawton's music production business, Acousticka Music, has helped get local performers Becky Walker, Luke Sullivan, Rebecca Woodston and Beth Plumb to a potential worldwide audience.

Now the young entrepreneur wants to give someone else the chance to make a name for themselves.

The teenager said: "To drum up local support and spread the

word of what Acousticka Music is all about, I am offering an introductory free recording session and a free YouTube upload of the recording.

"The recording session can be from the recording studio in my bedroom or an outside session where I will bring the recording equipment to you."

Mr Lawton hopes to follow in the footsteps of the likes of SBTU, a successful urban music channel on YouTube. He believes ACTV could do the same for acoustic music.

It's even impressed local Tory MP Gordon Henderson who recently visited the studio.

He said: "Daniel has a prom-

ising young business mind and I was impressed with his studio and what he has achieved.

"I am delighted to endorse Daniel's work and urge local musicians to support ACTV by taking up his fantastic offer."

■ You can find Acousticka Music at [www.youtube.com/user/djacousticTV](http://www.youtube.com/user/djacousticTV).

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## News

### COMMUNITY

# Have your say on how our public services will shape up in the future

By Chris Britcher

[chris.britcher@archant.co.uk](mailto:chris.britcher@archant.co.uk)

GET the opportunity to shape public services in Swale over the next two weeks as Sittingbourne and Sheppey both stage Local Engagement Forum (LEF) meetings.

Unsurprisingly, the main challenge facing decision makers and those keen to influence the process, will be from the economy.

For the 2012/13 financial year, Swale Borough Council has 20 per cent less funds available than it did two years ago.

This means that for every £10 the council had to spend on services then, today it has just £8.

A spokesman for the council explained: "To respond to these financial challenges we need to change our approach to public services.

"We have already begun to do this by sharing our services with other local councils, such as CCTV with Medway and human resources with Maidstone, and we are working with charities and local businesses as we improve our services.

"We will also be consulting on our Corporate Plan at the meeting, asking for views on what we aim to achieve over the next three years."

At the Sittingbourne LEF, to be held at The Avenue Theatre from 6.30pm on Tuesday, January 17, the key topics to be discussed will include the Kent County Council budget, the borough council's corporate strategy, the flood risk to Swale and an update on Swale and Canterbury carers.

The Sheppey event takes place on Tuesday, January 24,

at St George's CE Primary School in Chequers Road, Minster-On Sea, from 6.30pm.

Items to be discussed include the transformation of Kent Libraries, traffic and parking concerns at the new Leysdown school, the flood risk, broadband access and an update from the county council on the Danley School site.

There will also be a question and answer session during the evening.

To ask a question or propose a future topic for discussion contact Bill Ronan, community engagement officer at Kent County Council on [bill.roman@kent.gov.uk](mailto:bill.roman@kent.gov.uk) or by calling 01622 696889. Alternatively, contact Christopher Blandford, economy and community co-ordinator at Swale Borough Council by emailing [christopherblandford@swale.gov.uk](mailto:christopherblandford@swale.gov.uk) or 01795 417165.

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**FIRST GIFT:**

Octavia Hill (right) gave the National Trust one of its first properties in Toys Hill, (far right). Since then the trust has grown to acquire many more properties including, from the top, Sissinghurst, Scotney Castle, South Foreland Lighthouse and Emmetts Garden



## ENVIRONMENT

# Awards ensure the spirit of environmental hero lives on

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

VISIONARY campaigner Octavia Hill founded the National Trust, and to mark the centenary of her death, the organisation is launching a new hero award in her name.

The county has strong links to Ms Hill – who lived at Crockham Hill, near Westerham, where she is also buried.

And in 1898 she gave the Trust one of its first properties,

in nearby Toys Hill village, and since then the Trust ownership has expanded until in 1981 it acquired the core of the woodlands through a special appeal.

It is now known as Octavia Hill Woodland and is home to the Octavia Hill Basecamp, used for group holidays, education and voluntary work.

During her lifetime, Octavia helped save two other Kent hills from development, Mariners Hill and Ide Hill.

Now the Trust wants to mark the her extraordinary work to preserve Britain's heritage and landscape, with the launch of the Octavia Hill Awards.

The trust said: "Octavia was a Victorian social reformer and a founder of the National Trust who set the standard in campaigning for green places.

"The Octavia Hill Awards, which mark the centenary of Octavia Hill's death, aim to find the modern-day champions and guardians of our precious pieces of outdoor space."

There are six individual awards up for grabs on an annual basis.

These are: growing hero for someone who's set up a community growing scheme, or saved allotments; the natural hero is for individuals working for community spaces like woodlands, nature reserves or orchards; inspirational hero recognises someone for nurturing the next generation of enthusiasts; and the people's campaigner celebrates someone in the public spotlight who has done something amazing to champion an issue or cause.

Also there are awards for green space guardians, and finally the love place award which is specifically for National Trust volunteers, individuals or groups, who have enabled communities to benefit from the open places.

Hilary McGrady, National Trust director for London and the South East said: "Octavia Hill was a social reformer, pioneering environmental cam-



paigner and founder of the National Trust, she championed our green spaces during the period of rapid industrialisation and huge change that gripped Victorian Britain.

"She and her fellow campaigners saw a clear threat and wanted to protect these 'green lungs' in our towns and cities as places to enjoy the benefits of being in the outdoors,



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whether urban or rural. Out of this vision the National Trust was born as an organisation to acquire places of historic interest and natural beauty. "We want to celebrate her

life and legacy – she died in August 1912 – and recognise today's unsung heroes of the environmental movement, who make such a difference to our lives."

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## FLYTIPPING

# Flytipping crackdown puts council top of the pile, as it vows to clean up rubbish problem

By James Benjamin

[yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:yourswale@kosmedia.co.uk)

SWALE Borough Council is top of the pops for prosecuting flytippers according to the latest Government figures.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) says the council is the most successful in Kent.

The figures show that in the financial year 2010/11, the council obtained 12 prosecutions from those ditching their rubbish in the borough's lanes and lay-bys.

Council chiefs have been keen to crackdown on those involved in the anti-social practice as part of its overall campaign to educate and enforce in order to create a cleaner and greener Swale. In all, 1,918 incidents of flytipping were reported during the year, all of which were looked into by the council.

David Simmons, Swale Borough Council's portfolio holder for the environment and rural affairs, said: "We welcome the figures as it demonstrates clearly our priority to make Swale a cleaner and greener place for everyone."

"The figures highlight not only the excellent work of our street wardens and environment officers, but also the vital role that our residents and the local media play in this success."

"Residents tell us flytipping annoys them and we try to target our limited resources at the issues that concern them, which is why this recognition is also pleasing. We could not do this on our own though, and it is the public acting as our eyes and ears that helps us to target those who are responsible for dumping waste."

"We have always said that prosecution is a last resort, and we try to balance our proactive and reactive work, but we will prosecute where it is in the public interest to do so and we have obviously had success when doing so."

The council's street wardens were awarded joint first place in the South East Warden awards in 2009. The street wardens and environment officers work together on many duties, including deterring and tackling anti-social behaviour, dealing with flytipping and graffiti and issuing fixed penalty notices against litterers.

Their role is to help, educate and encourage people to be aware of the consequences of their actions; they are also able to take enforcement action when required.

The environment response team has dealt with thousands of cases of anti-social behaviour since the team was formed back in 2004.

The team play a key role in neighbourhood policing and work closely with all the key partners in Swale's Community Safety Partnership, as well as getting involved with targeted campaigns with other partners such as the KCC Clean Kent Team, and the Environment Agency.

■ See [www.yourswale.co.uk](http://www.yourswale.co.uk) for more news and sport from the area.



**UNSIGHTLY:** Flytipped rubbish can ruin a landscape

## TOURISM

## Staycation thanked for rise in visitor numbers

VISITOR numbers to one of Swale's top museum and art galleries have rocketed during 2011.

The Fleur de Lis Heritage Centre in Preston Street, Faversham saw museum figures rise by 20 per cent on the previous year and visitors to the gallery by 30 per cent. Chairwoman Jenny Parry said she put it down to the continued phenomenon of the Staycation - people preferring to spend time discovering attractions on their doorstep rather than travelling.

## LONDON 2012

## Fireman gets call up for key Olympic safety role

SHEPPEY firefighter Jim Ashby will be playing a key role during the London 2012 Olympic Games after being selected to be part of a rescue team for a number of events this summer.

The crew manager will be part of the team overseeing competition at the mountain biking, kayaking and canoeing events. Mr Ashby had acquired the necessary training through his work with the Kent Fire and Rescue service.

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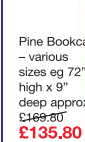
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## A life of hell on board Sheppey's prison ships

By Rob Colman

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

SHEERNESS on the Isle of Sheppey was long seen as a crucial maritime area, and the town actually began life as a fort built in the 16th century to protect the River Medway from naval invasion.

From 1669 the Royal Navy dockyard was established in the town, where warships were stocked and repaired until its closure in 1960.

The area also became a major mooring spot for 'prison hulks' – ships used to house convicts.

One example of this was HMS Discovery which was in service for 30 years before becoming a prison hulk in 1808, on the shore of Sheerness.

HMS Discovery was the ship of Captain George Vancouver during his famous exploration voyages in the Pacific.

She served as a prison hulk for 10 years at Sheerness and a further 15 years at Woolwich, before being moved to Deptford and broken up in 1834.

Sheerness was home to many more prison hulks including the Bellerophon which, according to Charles F Campbell, author of *The Intolerable Hulks*, "usually held about 480 convicts in woeful conditions".

The Bellerophon was moored at Sheerness from 1815-26, and was renamed HMS Captivity on October 5, 1824.

Many more unnamed prison hulks that were moored off the island as convict numbers continued to rise.

Converting these ships to



**HIGH WATER:** Both HMS Discovery (above) and the Bellerophon (top) were turned into prison ships and moored off Sheppey's coast

prison hulks involved removal of the rigging, masts, rudders and various other features required for sailing.

All the ships were rendered inoperable or unseaworthy in some way, and the internal structure was reconfigured with various features, including jail cells, in order to accommodate convicted criminals or occasionally prisoners of war.

Conditions on board these floating dungeons were appalling. The standards of hygiene were so poor that disease spread quickly.

Sick convicts were given little medical attention and were

not separated from healthy prisoners.

Dysentery, caused by drinking brackish water, was also widespread and patients, whatever their state of health, were made to lay on bare floor.

Mortality rates of around 30 per cent were quite common.

To get an idea of the numbers involved, the Bellerophon held more than 32,000 convicts during its years as a prison ship first for men, and then boys.

Most British prison hulks were decommissioned in the 19th century.

■ **More news and sport**  
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OPINION

# 21st century healthcare

Alison Davis explains how new NHS technology tested by patients in Kent is set to help transform the home lives of three million people

TECHNOLOGY pioneered in Kent is set to transform life for at least three million people across the country.

Locally, we have already seen what a dramatic effect telecare and telehealth can have on the daily life and wellbeing of people with long-term health problems after it was introduced by the primary care trusts in Kent and Kent County Council seven years ago.

Take, for instance, Haris Patel, 54, from Folkestone whose health conditions include problems caused by hardening of the arteries.

He said: "Before I had telehealth, I used to spend 10 months of each year in hospital. Since I got it, I have been in for two weeks in the last three years, and that was planned. Telehealth gives me peace of mind."

Now the Department of Health is so impressed with the results of the Whole System

Demonstrator Programme, which tested the technology in Kent, Cornwall and Newham, that it is championing its use nationwide.

The project found there was a 45 per cent reduction in deaths among patients taking part, a 15 per cent drop in attendance at A&E, and 20 per cent fewer emergency admissions to hospital.

Care services minister Paul Burstow said: "People were absolutely clear that high-tech healthcare has improved their lives for the better."

"I want to see more people across the country benefit. That is why we are working with industry, the NHS and councils to change the lives of three million people across England over the next five years."

So what is this technology? Telecare, introduced in Kent in 2004, offers remote monitoring of people's safety. Available to

vulnerable people, who meet specific criteria, it consists of sensors that can be worn (such as a falls monitor on the belt) or placed in the home (such as a flood alarm if someone might not remember to turn off the taps).

Sensors are connected to a 24-hour monitoring centre which contacts the person and raises the alarm if there is a problem.

Telehealth, which enables remote monitoring of people's health, is even more innovative.

Available in Kent since 2005, it offers suitable patients with conditions such as diabetes, lung disease and heart disease, the chance to measure their pulse, blood pressure, blood glucose, blood oxygen level, peak flow (lung capacity), temperature and weight, all at home.

Their community matron from Kent Community Health NHS Trust, or specialist nurse, monitors their readings from day to day, picking up subtle



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**I want to see more people across the country benefit**

changes in their health before they develop into something more serious.

This helps people stay well – as does the power it gives them over their lives. People get to 'know their numbers' and understand the impact their day-to-day life has on their health, so they can spot when things are deteriorating and take action.

It has been such a success that the technology is no longer just a pilot – it is being rolled out across Kent and Medway and will be available as part of the care package for those who are eligible.

This is a wonderful example of what the NHS and social care can achieve by working closely together to improve the quality of life for local people.

**■ Alison Davis is associate director of integrated commissioning with responsibility for technology for NHS Kent and Medway.**

## KOS COMMENT

The hidden reality of Kent's child poverty

THE shocking but grim reality that almost half of children living in some parts of Kent are in poverty is a stark reminder of how close to home this often hidden problem really is.

It's easy to dismiss poverty as something that happens elsewhere, but this is something that blights communities across our county.

The last few years have been tough for most, but there's a difference between not being able to buy those extra bits in the weekly shop, and struggling to feed your family and keep them warm through the winter.

This should be a wake-up call to the Government that something needs to be done urgently to ensure there's hope of a brighter future for these children.

Explorer rediscovered

WHILE most cases a roof collapsing would prove unlucky, in this instance it led to the discovery of evidence of a forgotten hero who may otherwise never have been recognised.

It's only right that after all these years explorer Dr Reginald Koettlitz gets the praise he deserves.

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## Let's catch the metal thieves

HOMES, churches, schools and businesses in the county are all suffering increasing levels of metal theft, with lead roofs, copper piping and electronic cabling all considered fair game.

Even manhole and gully covers have been disappearing from our roads, costing the taxpayer hundreds of pounds for each replacement.

Metal is a tempting target, not just because it is worth so much, but because it is so easily converted to cash.

Thieves now even resort to stealing metal name plaques from churchyards and war memorials, in exchange for a few pounds from unscrupulous scrap metal dealers.

The existing situation where anyone can sell anything to for cash, with no questions asked, has to be challenged.

We have been lobbying the Government to amend the

Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964, so all dealers are licensed, cash sales are prohibited and enforcement powers and penalties are enhanced so metal thieves face the full consequences of their crimes.

I would encourage anyone actually, or potentially, affected by metal theft to write to their MPs, asking them to support MP Graham Jones in his Metal Theft Prevention Bill.

And I would urge readers to report any thefts to the police and their Countrywatch contact. They might think it's not worth it, but the police cannot allocate resources on the basis of hearsay – they need statistics.

**Judith Norris, chairman,  
Country Land and  
Business Association,  
Kent branch**

## Heed guiding lights advice

I DEFY anyone to drive one mile along any road in Thanet

after lighting up time and not pass at least one car driving along with only one headlight working.

I recently followed a police car during holiday break and we passed two such cars – and the police did nothing.

If safe to do so, I stop drivers and point out that only one of their headlights is operational and most are grateful to be told, actually. Some tell me it's none of my business, though.

It can be extremely dangerous on a dark road to see one headlight approaching you, as you might think it was a motorbike.

I beg your readers to check their headlights. A bulb is cheaper than a written off car or, worse still, a funeral.

**Paddy Earp,  
Broadstairs**

## Reader's right to sound off

I AM writing in support of JR O'Neon's letter (last week).

I am unable to comprehend how this annoying background music can be held to improve the content of so many TV programmes.

Surely the only reason for any such music is to improve the atmosphere, not to boost the income of whoever gains from this practice.

Put a stop to it now, please.

**Charles Wanothrocht,  
Sandwich**

## County Hall in need of change

LAST week's letter from Terry Hudson on the unaccountable and dysfunctional actions of Kent County Council and its Tory leaders was spot on.

To think this council takes the lion's share of our local council tax and then fritters away hard-earned cash on astronomical pay-offs instead of de-icing roads, mending potholes and pavements, cutting back roadside

hedgerows and tending trees.

Maybe another shake-up of local government layers is due, or we can kick out these uncaring Conservatives in the May, 2013, elections.

**Alan Bullion,  
Tunbridge Wells**

## Energy needs policy rethink

ONCE again Ian Taylor wheels out his climate change denial and economic status quo view (last week's paper).

The fact is that Green politics is based on established and irrefutable science about man-made climate change, and far more progressive social, economic and environmental ideas than any of the old parties.

Even the likes of Viscount Monkton et al, usually say they accept climate change is happening and our fault, but whine about supposed costs and future computer projections of the consequences.

On costs though, a recent report by Prof David Mackay at the Department of Energy and Climate Change suggests that low-carbon energy is "no dearer than doing nothing".

Granted he includes nuclear, but far more sensible in my view would be a great expansion of solar panelling.

Instead of the Coalition cutting the subsidies and speeding up the other renewables like tidal and wind to help cover future energy usage I, and the Greens, suggest this would also help create far more jobs in those industries rather than in persisting with more highly centralised, secretive and overly powerful nuclear and fossil fuelled ones.

As for thorium use, this may be being pursued in India, but it is still only in its infancy, unproven, and is again a fossil fuel.

The UK would have to pay to mine and transport it for use here, thus releasing more greenhouse gases in the process.

On fracking I point out that last month's report by Deloitte showed that most of the farmers in the US who leased land for that process now very much regret doing so, and the US Eco Protection Agency has shown the polluting of water tables, including by methane, caused by fracking.

In general, many commentators and economists are now saying we simply cannot continue with more of the same social, economic policies that have brought us to our current parlous state.

Harking back to 18th and 19th century models of growth, as the Tories, Lib Dems and still neo-con Labour, appear to be doing, will only result in a return of Dickensian levels of penury and misery for the 99 per cent, while the top one per cent continue to get the spoils.

Instead we need a paradigm shift to, I suggest, a green, democratic and co-operative society including social enterprises and worker councils on larger firms, a la the old German model.

These, as has been suggested along prosperity without growth lines in books, of the same title, by Dr Tim Jackson, itself recommended by no less than Prince Charles, the New Economics Foundation, Green Party, TUC, and many others.

**Ray Duff,  
Folkestone**

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## P&O ready to challenge Eurotunnel in ferry saga



THERE'S A STORM COMING: SeaFrance has been placed in administration and its ships docked

**Nick Ames**

[nick.ames@archant.co.uk](mailto:nick.ames@archant.co.uk)

FERRY giant P&O has threatened to report Eurotunnel to the European Commission if its plan to buy the ships of the insolvent SeaFrance breaches European competition rules.

P&O Ferries, which accounts for some 30 per cent of traffic on the Dover to Calais route between England and France, gave the warning after Eurotunnel, the Channel Tunnel operator, revealed that it might buy SeaFrance's three ships from the company's administrator.

Eurotunnel executive chairman Jacques Gounon said his company could lease the ships, all built in the last five years, to a new operator, possibly formed from a cooperative of SeaFrance staff.

France's Tribunal de Commerce or-

dered SeaFrance's liquidation on Monday after it ruled out accepting any of the bids that had been made for the company.

SNCF, France's rail company, owns the maritime operator, which had long been making a loss on the highly-competitive route, where its main competitors are P&O, a British-registered company but with the government of Dubai as its sole shareholder, Denmark's DFDS and Eurotunnel, which in recent years has carried about 40 per cent of the traffic.

The closure of the company would lead to 127 job losses in Dover and up to 900 more across the Channel.

A lack of investment, rising fuel prices and industrial unrest have all hit the French company hard and a large number of strikes have taken place over bank-holiday weekends by a mili-

tant, unionised workforce, while freight traffic has decreased due to the economic downturn and Eurozone crisis.

SeaFrance's vessels have been tied up out of use since the court placed the company in administration in November. French president Nicolas Sarkozy has backed efforts to find a way of saving the 1,100 jobs at SeaFrance, whose fate has become a big issue ahead of April's presidential election. He said on Monday: "I believe it is possible to say there will be a credible solution."

A statement from Chris Laming, P&O communications director, called the saga a "never-ending battle" to persuade the French authorities that there should be a level playing field between operators.

"If we felt that competition rules were being breached by our major cross-Channel competitor – Eurotunnel, with

40 per cent of the market – we would complain vigorously to the competition authorities in a bid to protect our own position," he said. "But the ball is very much in their [Eurotunnel's] court."

Under the Eurotunnel plan, the Tunnel operator would buy the ships as an investment and lease them to a new market entrant.

M Gounon said: "We cannot let the only French company in the port of Calais disappear."

He added that a cooperative of SeaFrance workers was the "most credible" proposition for SeaFrance and "the most socially acceptable". The court, however, ruled out the workers' bid.

Nathalie Kosciusko-Morizet, France's ecology and transport minister, said another company, Louis Dreyfus Armateurs, had put in a bid for SeaFrance but it had been rejected by a French court.

### APPRENTICESHIPS

#### MP pleased with hefty rise in apprenticeships

GOVERNMENT figures show there were more than 700 apprenticeship starts in Sittingbourne and Sheppey in 2011, compared with 440 the previous year – a rise of 64 per cent.

Local MP Gordon Henderson said he was a strong supporter of apprenticeships and was positive this growth would be a long-term trend as employers and potential apprentices began to see the benefits of an apprenticeship for themselves, their businesses and the economy.

Sittingbourne and Sheppey has long been home to a wealth of industries, with Sheerness docks, a steelworks and brickworks, Kent Science Park and Kemsley paper mill, along with business parks hosting many small and medium-sized businesses.

Kent Science Park is also proving popular with businesses looking to start up or relocate.

There is also the recently-built Morrisons distribution centre and possible future business investment in Vestas and Aesica Pharmaceuticals on Sheppey, which holds potential for the future of apprenticeships in the area.

Mr Henderson said: "I support the measures to make it easier to take on apprentices and want to support businesses in increasing the number of apprenticeships within my constituency."

### SEMINAR

#### Forum shows you how to use public relations to boost your business

THE good, the bad and the ugly sides of public relations will be discussed during the inaugural Institute of Directors marketing and communications forum.

The seminar, delivered by Tunbridge Wells PR and marketing agency Maxim, will encourage attendees to consider how they can use PR to build a stronger company profile.

Andrew Metcalf, a director of Maxim and vice-chair of IoD Kent, will be at the event.

He said: "This forum will provide an insight into the world of public relations, giving delegates tips on how to both avoid the pitfalls and make PR work for their organisation."

"It is also an opportunity for business leaders to reflect on how best to protect their hard-earned

reputations and what may work for them when it comes to marketing during 2012."

Simon Robinson, senior account executive at Maxim, will also speak.

He said: "During my time as business editor at Kent on Sunday I saw many examples of good PR and well-written press releases but, sadly, many examples of releases that did not hit the mark."

"By following a few simple tips you can give your press releases a greater chance of being used."

The event will take place at the Clydesdale Financial Services Centre at Turkey Mill, Maidstone, on Monday (January 16) from 8.15am-10am. It is priced at £15 for IoD members and £25 for non-members. Phone 023 80266548 to book a place.

### ENVIRONMENT

#### Private hospital given international award

MARGATE'S Spencer Private Hospital, which provides healthcare for both private and NHS-funded patients, has received an award for its commitment to environmental issues.

It has been given an ISO 14001 – an internationally-accepted standard that assists organisations in putting into place an effective environmental management system.

It was instigated via guidelines set down by the first Earth Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992.

The hospital has a 22-en-suite-bed unit on the site of the QEQM Hospital and a five-bed unit within the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford.

This award is for the management of administration systems supporting the care provided within the hospitals.

Manager Lynn Orrin said: "As part of our ongoing commitment to minimise our company's environmental impact, we looked to establish an environmental management system that would support the organisation's commitment to this important issue."

"To achieve the award, the organisation identified and recorded the environmental aspects and impacts of its activities."

## Eco-friendly rail freight service is put back on track

INTERNATIONAL logistics business Stobart Group has restarted its low-carbon, rail freight service between Valencia in Spain and Barking, east London, using the lines at Folkestone.

The seasonal rail service is operated by Europorte Channel, part of GB Railfreight, the third largest rail freight operator in the UK and a subsidiary of Groupe Eurotunnel. It will carry 30 chilled containers of fruit and vegetables from Spain to supermarkets and retailers in the UK.

The first train was monitored throughout the journey by the latest satellite tracking software, which closely observes progress and ensures the temperature of each 45ft-long, refrigerated container remains suitably chilled.

The journey takes just over 50 hours, with the service passing through Spain, France and the Channel Tunnel. It saves some 250 cross-continent truck journeys every month, slashing vehicle carbon emissions and cutting congestion on Spanish, French and British motorways.

In an innovative move, Europorte Channel and Network Rail have used the international rail lines at the Folkestone end of the tunnel, removing the need for an extra stop on the northbound leg of the journey – cutting costs and journey time.

The new service has been part-funded by a European Union Marco Polo grant and will initially run weekly, building up to five services per week at peak times.

Liam Martin, Stobart Rail freight managing director, said: "The resumption of this seasonal service has been driven by the commercial advantages it offers and the environmental benefits. It will help take trucks off European motorways and ease congestion at key pinch-points such as the Pyrenees.

Kevin Walker, director for Europorte Channel, said: "Working closely with the team at Stobart Rail, we have been able to adapt to the demand of our customer and to the challenges of such a long route through the European railway network. This is a truly international partnership that demonstrates the added value cross-Channel rail freight can bring."

## Expert advice for small companies

CHARTERED accountancy group ICAEW has launched an initiative in Kent to help small companies and start-ups with business and financial advice to aid economic growth.

The Business Advice Service (BAS) says it can open the door to expert guidance on how best to start, plan, manage and grow a business.

Mark Spofforth, ICAEW deputy president, said: "Start-ups or growing small businesses need the best advice to succeed at a time of fragile recovery and limits on public spending.

"In response, BAS will offer SMEs the opportunity to discuss their business with a qualified chartered accountant through a free initial consultation. ICAEW chartered accountants will be able to offer expert advice on a whole range of issues facing them – from starting a business to turnaround, restructuring, financial management or taxation issues."

Fay Webster, South East regional director, said: "SME growth is crucial to the UK's economic success. In tough economic conditions, small businesses need the right advice and support to succeed.

"With the Government looking to encourage an export-led recovery, SMEs should seek out opportunities overseas to bolster growth."

# Polished performance is a winner for one colourful husband-and-wife team

By Nick Ames

[nick.ames@archant.co.uk](mailto:nick.ames@archant.co.uk)

A DISASTER-restoration and cleaning business that came to the rescue of 200 flooded homes and businesses has won a national award.

Wayne and Chris Crossfield, who run the Swanley branch of Rainbow International, were inundated with calls for help during last winter's cold snap.

The couple and their team worked round the clock helping flood victims across south-east London and north-west Kent. In addition, throughout the year the company has come to the aid of homes and businesses that have been hit by fire, flood and accidental damage.

Now its efforts have been recognised with the Franchisee Of The Month award, beating off competition from 85 other franchisees.

The couple started the business three years ago and now have a five-strong team of skilled technicians. During that time they have doubled their operating area and have recently moved into a 2,500 sq ft emergency response centre in Park Road, Swanley.

Rainbow International specialises in restoring homes and businesses following fire, flood or accidental damage, as well as providing a commercial and domestic cleaning service.

The couple have invested £100,000 in specialist equipment and training, including deep-cleaning tools for commercial kitchens and ductwork, thermal-imaging equipment and leak-detection equipment to provide a fast service for dealing with escapes of water.

The business also provides a restoration service for damaged office equipment and household contents, including antique restoration.



**SHINING:** Wayne and Chris Crossfield are congratulated by technical manager Nigel Hewitt, right

Mr Crossfield said: "We have invested heavily in equipment and staff training to ensure we can provide a fast, effective service and that investment is paying off through the growth of our business.

"It's a real boost to win this award and I am

grateful to all our staff for their continued support and commitment."

Rainbow's Phil Else said: "Wayne and Chris thoroughly deserve this award. They are a credit to the company and a first-class example of what can be achieved with a can-do attitude."

## Cruise terminal preparing for busy season with 250,000 passengers expected to dock at Dover

WITH 156 visits from cruise liners, the 2012 cruise season is going to be another busy year for Dover Cruise Port.

More than 250,000 passengers will experience the facilities and services available at the port's cruise terminals and the attractions on offer.

Ships from prominent cruise organisations including Fred Olsen, Saga, Holland America, Ibercrueros and Pullmantur will all return to Dover Cruise Port as well as the extremely popular AIDA with inaugural visits by AIDAluna and AIDamar.

Other inaugural calls include Oceania's Nautica, All Leisure Group's Discovery, Royal Caribbean's Brilliance Of The Seas and the Costa Fortuna.

Saga's regular visiting vessels,



**STARTING POINT:** Dover Cruise Port will host visits from prominent ships

Pearl II and Ruby, will be joined by new ship Sapphire for the first time in May 2012.

Highlights during the season also include Azamara Journey,

making its Dover debut early next summer, and the return of MSC's Lirica and Poesia to the port on four occasions during the season, operating four-night

mini-cruise itineraries to and from Amsterdam and Hamburg.

Hapag Lloyd's Europa and Windstar's Windsurf will also dock, enabling passengers to experience what Kent has to offer as part of their northern European itineraries.

Kate O'Hara, head of commercial and marketing at the Port of Dover, said: "First-class levels of service, excellent facilities and a wealth of shore excursion opportunities, coupled with the high-speed rail service to the centre of London, have contributed significantly to the growth we are enjoying.

"Repeat customers already know there's no better way to start a European cruise than sailing into the sunset against a backdrop of the White Cliffs."



# Apprenticeships could benefit economy... not just the young

By Nick Ames

[nick.ames@archant.co.uk](mailto:nick.ames@archant.co.uk)

A LEADING voice in the business community has vowed to do all in its power to assist young people who can't find work and is lobbying Westminster for greater help.

The Federation Of Small Businesses says the 85 additional unemployed people in Kent and Medway revealed in the latest jobless figures "might not appear significant", but members say it is devastating that they join more than 35,000 people in the county without a job.

Canterbury, with a high proportion of employment in the public sector (40+ per cent) suffered the biggest downturn, with 74 more people joining the dole queue – a criterion that would qualify new jobs for an employers' National Insurance incentive in the west and north of the UK but that has not been forthcoming in Kent.

The group is particularly concerned at the effect unemployment has on young people trying to start their careers.

Roger House, FSB chairman in Kent and Medway, said: "The FSB has been lobbying the Government to implement job-creation incentives. Following our disappointment at the rejection of the South East Local Enterprise Partnership bid for funding to support apprenticeships in Kent, we very much welcome new measures announced by the Business Secretary on November 16 that should ensure more young people will benefit from an apprenticeship."

To encourage thousands of small firms that don't hire apprentices, the Government will offer employers an incentive payment of up to £1,500 and processes will be simplified to make it quicker and easier for employers to take one on.

Mr House said: "A third of businesses responding to an FSB survey said this would encourage them to take an apprentice on, and a rebalancing of current funding to provide this is something the FSB has called for, for some time."

"Nevertheless, there remains a need for a continued focus on helping small businesses over-



**THE FUTURE'S LOOKING BRIGHT:** The Government is offering employers up to £1,500 in incentive payments if they choose to take on young apprentices

come the barriers that they face in doing so."

The Government terminated its Graduate Internship Scheme earlier this year – which the FSB believes was an error. The programme had supported paid internships in small businesses for 8,500 graduates.

The federation says it is still calling on the Government to extend the scheme because at least 5,000 new internship placements can be made at a cost to Government of £8 million – instantly reducing benefit payments by at least £1.5m.

Mr House said: "With 25 per cent of interns being offered permanent work, this would also boost Treasury coffers by a further £3.37m over the course of one year in reduced Job Seekers Allowance payments and add a further £5.4m in tax payments, as well as boosting the productivity of the UK economy. We are urging the Government to reintroduce this scheme."

The FSB says more than three-quarters of 11- to 18-year olds (77 per cent) say they would like to start their own business in the future.

Members feel education systems across the UK should nurture entrepreneurship so future gen-

erations are equipped with the confidence and skills to run their own business. Young Enterprise provides an opportunity for students aged 15-19 to set up and run their own company.

Mr House said: "The FSB is working with Young Enterprise across Kent and Medway to encourage schools to join the YE Company Programme."

"The FSB has set aside £5,000 sponsorship to assist schools to participate in the programme and to give young people the employability skills they need."

Schools not currently running Young Enterprise and who would like more information should phone FSB 01622 688134 or email [office.kent@fsb.org.uk](mailto:office.kent@fsb.org.uk).

## Services-provider is cutting its carbon footprint by introducing new river jetty

FM Conway has marked its 50th anniversary with the opening of its asphalt plant in Erith and a new Thameside jetty.

These two new additions mean the company can supply asphalt products, increase its recycling capacity and take delivery of aggregates by ship.

This use of river transportation will reduce the number of lorry movements in and around London by 15,000 journeys a year, thereby reducing CO2 emissions by 1,025 tonnes per annum.

Conway's Erith plant is the most energy-efficient facility of its kind in the UK.

Since becoming operational 15 months ago, the plant has become the busiest single asphalt plant in the country,



**MAIN MAN:** Michael Conway

with operational availability 24 hours a day, all year round.

Michael Conway, chief executive officer for FM Conway, said: "This asphalt plant is the realisation of our goal to become a truly integrated service-provider."

During operations the plant has so far produced more than 450,000 tonnes of asphalt. The material produced has paved roads and been used for schools, hospitals, dockyards, rail depots, car parks and areas of the Olympic Park.

The asphalt plant delivers products that have been developed by Conway's research-and-development team at the material-testing laboratory at nearby Mulberry Way.

The new Conway Jetty and Wharf will receive more than 250,000 tonnes of aggregate per year. The wharf has been designed to berth 6,000-tonne ships; the jetty features an automated conveyor system that can operate at a rate of 500 tonnes per hour.

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**Keep Kent Working!**  
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## College tasters for unemployed

NORTH West Kent College is offering unemployed people the chance to try out its vocational courses at Dartford and Gravesend in February.

Special taster days for people who are out of work are being offered in hairdressing and office skills at Dartford and Gravesend; and in professional cookery, engineering and construction at Gravesend only.

Engineering at Gravesend features on January 25, while construction and other subjects are featured throughout February.

Further information is available on the college's website at [www.nwkc.kent.ac.uk](http://www.nwkc.kent.ac.uk) and the free places can be booked on 01322 629637.

## Apprentices win building awards

TWO apprentices from Canterbury Cathedral have won awards at the annual Building Crafts College prize-giving.

Fourth year stonemasonry apprentice Sam Matthews won two awards, The Worshipful Company of Masons prize for Outstanding Effort, and what was referred to as the "college Oscar", the Sir Bannister Fletcher Prize for the College Student of the Year.

Jake Wood, a second year apprentice stonemason, was awarded the Avery Knight Trophy for Best Performing First Year Stonemasonry Student.

Heather Newton, head of stonemasonry and conservation at the cathedral said: "We are very fortunate here at Canterbury to have such talented and motivated young apprentices – it inspires confidence that the cathedral will be in safe hands for generations to come."

"It was a wonderful evening and both boys deserved their awards as they have worked very hard. They have also both participated in national SkillBuild competitions and Sam was awarded a silver medal – so it bodes well for the future."

The Canterbury Cathedral Apprenticeship Scheme offers apprenticeships in carpentry, electrical, gardening, plumbing, scaffolding and stonemasonry, and has recently introduced a chef apprenticeship in the Cathedral Lodge.

# Prince's Trust course for the young jobless

THE Prince's Trust is to run a new photography and animation course to help unemployed young people gain the skills and confidence they need to find work.

The course will be run in partnership with the South East Physics Network Team based at the University of Kent in Canterbury.

This comes as more than one-in-five young people in Kent are struggling to find a job.

The Trust is now looking for unemployed 16 to 25-year-olds from Kent to take part in its five-day Get Started with Photography and Animation programme running from February 6.

The free course will help young people with an interest in

photography and art to develop confidence, motivation and teamwork skills to boost their chances of getting a job.

Participants will have the chance to create their own light drawings and animations by using a variation of photographic techniques.

All young people will receive mentoring support for three months after the course to help them find work or access further training.

Last year, more than three in four young people helped by the Prince's Trust moved into work, education or training.

A taster day for those interested in signing up to the course being held on Wednesday, February 1.

To apply for the course or for

more information contact Harj Sangha on 07795166355 or text Animation to the same number.

Travel costs will be reimbursed and lunches provided for all young people taking part.

The Prince's Trust charity was founded in 1976 by Prince Charles to help young people across the UK.

It runs a range of training programmes, provide mentoring support and financial grants to build the confidence and motivation of disadvantaged young people.

Each year it works with 40,000 young people across the UK, with around 80 per cent moving on to employment, education, training or volunteering.

It gives practical and financial support, developing key workplace skills such as confidence and motivation.

It works with 13 to 30-year-olds who have struggled at school, have been in care, are long-term unemployed or have been in trouble with the law.

Last year, more than three in four young people helped by The Prince's Trust moved into work or training.

The Enterprise Programme is the scheme for which the Prince's Trust is best known and it helps young people start a business.

Young people can benefit from the programme if they are aged 18-30, are unemployed, or working less than 16 hours a week.



BY ROYAL APPOINTMENT: Prince Charles's charity works to help young people

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email [editorial@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:editorial@kosmedia.co.uk) or call us on 01303 817136.

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## Learn about teaching courses and qualifications available in Medway

AN open evening to find out about teaching qualifications will take place this week.

The informal event will be on Tuesday, January 17, at the Rochester Adult Education Centre/Community Hub from 5-7.30pm.

The open evening will be an opportunity for teachers, tutors and trainers both in the private and public sectors, to find out about the range of teaching qualifications and short courses, chat to tutors, and get advice

and guidance on their own development needs.

The teacher training team of Medway Adult and Community Learning Service (MACLS) will be on hand to discuss options and answer questions.

Anyone who is currently teaching adults or who wishes to explore their options for adding another string to their bow has been encouraged to attend and meet the team.

On top of teaching qualification courses such as PTLLS and

DTLLS, MACLS range of courses has expanded to include: assertiveness for teachers and trainers; developing your professional persona – using professional actors' techniques to develop and improve teaching delivery and presentation skills; the new Level 3 Assessor's Award (TAQA); and two day-intensive train-the-trainer.

No appointment is needed and for more information, email [natasha.french@medway.gov.uk](mailto:natasha.french@medway.gov.uk) or call 01634 338476.

## Chemistry students get teeth stuck into food project



CHILLI pepper heat and the antibacterial properties of honey are among the fields being explored by scientists at MidKent College.

Students working towards the Higher National Diploma in applied chemistry are undertaking their own in-depth research projects, the likes of which are not usually carried out until the second year of university.

The strength of the projects will go a long way in determining the scientists' final HND score, which if high enough can be topped up into a full degree with further study at university.

Programme area leader for applied science, Eleanor Wood, said: "Most scientific discoveries are the result of years of study by lots of people investigating lots of different things, so you never really know what you're going to end up with. But fingers crossed we'll get some interesting results."

"Most of our students who go on to university have sailed through their degrees thanks to having already taken part in projects like this, with some even helping to teach Masters students."

**FEELING THE HEAT:** Chemistry student Miles Balderston works on his chilli pepper project

Among the research projects being undertaken by the young chemists is one looking at the antibacterial properties of honey – in particular how much more effective the New Zealand-produced Manuka honey is compared to cheaper high street brands.

Meanwhile, 19-year-old Chatham resident Miles Balderston is attempting to devise a scientific scale for measuring the temperature of chilli peppers.

He said: "The most common scale used at the moment is the Scoville scale, which is completely unscientific because it relies on different people tasting the chilli peppers. The other way to test their temperature is to use a technique known as High-Performance Liquid Chromatography, but that's still not an exact science."

## Computer school snaps up places on industrial placement programme

THE University of Kent's School of Computing is celebrating record numbers of students on its industrial placement programme.

Almost 100 students are on placement with a range of businesses – from global institutions to smaller specialist companies – in the UK and overseas.

The placements were secured following assessment and competition against students throughout the country.

"Last year, we had 59 Kent

students on industrial placements," said Katie Van Sanden, one of the industrial placement co-ordinators in the school of computing.

"This year, despite the tough economic climate, 96 students are working with organisations, from Disney, Microsoft, Accenture and IBM to creative design agencies and the 2012 Olympics Organising Committee.

"Now, more than ever, students need more than a degree to embark on a meaning-

ful graduate career."

A particular success story is the Kent students working for Cisco Systems, the networking company, based in San Jose, California.

Cisco selected four students – Phil Styles, Zach Antonas, Sergios Charalambous and Paul Wozniak – to spend a year working on cutting-edge technology in Silicon Valley.

Next year, the number of students at Cisco is likely to be at least double.

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- Warehousing and Logistics

### PART-TIME SUPPORT WORKER

required at  
**Residential Home based in Doddington, Sittingbourne**  
to help adults with learning disabilities.

Must have own transport due to location.

Full training will be given, including NVQ.

For more information, please call Mrs Brooks

– Tel: **01795 886220**



REGISTERED NURSES RGN and CARE ASSISTANTS

Come and join our friendly team here at Applecroft - a modern nursing home, purpose built to accommodate the needs of older people and set in a pleasant location in the village of River, Dover.

Applications welcomed from Registered Nurses and Care Assistants who either have experience in caring for older people (experience or qualification in Dementia Care an advantage) or wish to gain experience in this field.

To arrange an informal visit and application please contact:  
Brendan O'Connor, Clinical Manager. Tel 01304 821331



The Spencer Wing is an independently owned and managed private hospital. We have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford and a 22 bed unit situated on the QEOM Hospital site. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

## Physiotherapy Manager

Full time

To manage our Physiotherapy Department and maintain clinical skills with our in-patient and out-patient activity, primarily at Margate but across both sites. Six or more years post graduate experience and previous management experience preferred.

**Closing date for applications 20th January 2012**

*To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact*  
**Lynn Orrin, Hospital Manager - 01843 234554**

*For job description and application form please contact:*  
**Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Wing, QEOM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG**  
**Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333**  
**E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com**

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer

*This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check*



SOVA is a leading national volunteer mentoring organisation working with those socially and economically disadvantaged in England and Wales.

Serco Job Deal is an initiative designed to support offenders back into work by improving their employment prospects and tackling barriers to employment. SOVA is currently expanding this service within East Kent and now requires a Case Manager to implement this service.

### Case Manager Ref: CMEK01

Hours: 35 per week (F/T)

Starting Salary: pt 25 (range 25-35) £21,421

Base: East Kent (Canterbury, Folkestone and Thanet)

The main purpose of this post is to work closely with Probation Service to provide case management to community payback participants referred to Serco Job Deal (Kent). The post holder will be required to implement this service and have the skills to set up and maintain strong relationships with both clients and partners/funders and other external stakeholders, in order to achieve targets.

For an application form and further details visit the SOVA website at

[www.sova.org.uk](http://www.sova.org.uk)

Or contact

**SOVA Recruitment**  
**Unit 201 Lincoln House**  
**1-3 Brixton Road**  
**London SW9 6DE**

Telephone: **020 7793 5867** Email: **sa@sova.org.uk**  
Clearly stating the post reference

**Closing date: 31 January 2012 at 5pm.**

**Interview date: 17 February 2012**



## Specialist Support DT & Engineering

Required from May 2012

Salary Grade 4: £15,984 - £16,793 (full time salary)

Full Time: 37 hours per week in term time (38 weeks per annum)

with 74 additional hours in school holidays (equivalent to 2 weeks)

- \* Do you have experience of working in Design & Technology or Engineering?
- \* Do you enjoy supporting young people and gain satisfaction from seeing them learn?
- \* Are you proficient in the use of workshop machinery in a school environment?
- \* Are you familiar with the Health & Safety requirements of a workshop?
- \* Are you versatile, a quick learner and do you have good IT skills?

If you feel that you can answer 'Yes' to all of the above, Northfleet Technology College is the place for you!

NTC has recently undergone a Support Staff re-structure and as a result, a Full Time vacancy has arisen for a DT and Engineering Technician.

The working hours of 37 hours per week is Term Time, plus 74 additional hours which can be agreed with the Headteacher and in line with school requirements.

Appointment will be subject to satisfactory safeguarding & vetting checks including references & a Fully Enhanced CRB.

*Please contact the School Office if you would like further information on how to apply for this position.*

**Closing date: Friday 27 January 2012**

Further details are available from Miss E Stuart

Email: [office@ntc.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@ntc.kent.sch.uk)

Web: [www.ntc.kent.sch.uk](http://www.ntc.kent.sch.uk)

Tel: 01474 533802

Head: Jane Partridge





## MTS Cleansing Services Ltd

Requires Class 1 & 2 Tanker Driver operators at their Rochester Depot.

Duties include the collection and disposal of controlled waste at registered waste reception sites, attending emergency call out situations and dealing with sewer blockage emergencies. We operate an emergency call out rota which includes weekend working and unsociable hours so applicants need to be flexible.

Operating mainly in the South East, you will be required to complete a 50 hour working week any five days from seven. A competitive salary is offered along with overtime and night out premiums.

For an application pack and further details please telephone **01634 257143** and ask for a member of the HR Team or

Email: [terry.crust@mtscleansing.co.uk](mailto:terry.crust@mtscleansing.co.uk)



### Care Workers

ROCHESTER, GILLINGHAM, STROOD, WALTERSLADE, TWYDALL, LORDSWOOD

- Competitive rates of pay
- Flexible working hours
- Weekend and morning hours available
- Free training to HSC Level 2 Diploma
- 28 days' paid annual leave (pro rata)
- No previous experience necessary
- Good written and spoken English

London Care is a leading provider of care support services to vulnerable older people and children with disabilities living in their own homes.

For an application form contact the central recruitment team on 0208 795 6555 or e-mail: [recruitment@londoncare.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@londoncare.co.uk)

London Care is an Equal Opportunities Employer

[www.londoncare.co.uk](http://www.londoncare.co.uk)



### CASEWORKER

Expanding firm of criminal defence lawyers seek a case worker to help in the preparation of Crown Court cases at our Margate Office. The successful candidate will need to hold a clean driving licence.

Previous experience of working in a legal aid practice is required.

Please send your CV and covering letter to  
**Sarah Sutherland, 170 Northdown Road,  
Cliftonville, Kent, CT9 2QT**

or via email [sarahs@kentdefence.co.uk](mailto:sarahs@kentdefence.co.uk)

Closing date 30th January.

No agencies please.

### Market Research Interviewers

Earn **£53.65-£71.25** for a 6 hour working day with travel allowance and holiday pay.

Interviewing people in their own homes after 12.30pm, working a minimum 3 days per week, no previous experience – full training given. No selling. Good standard of English required. You must have your own land line and/or broadband and your own transport. To apply call the number below, quoting ref: 6965ZZ

Call **020 8433 4490**

[www.kantaroperations.com](http://www.kantaroperations.com)

**KANTAR OPERATIONS**

We are an equal opportunities employer.

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To advertise in this section call: 01303 817040

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## The future of local media

Be part of an exciting and growing team working for the largest community media company in the UK with all its associated benefits

### Digital & Business Development Manager

Archant KOS Media is looking to recruit an experienced commercial person who has a strong background of business development preferably in the online arena.

This person will be used to putting together Powerpoint presentations to key accounts and must be able to work with the minimum of supervision.

On occasions the successful applicant will go out on joint presentations with other sales account managers to present bespoke solutions for their clients through our various online services.

This is a key position and will report directly to the Ad Director and work very closely with the Field Sales Manager for Kent.

This person will need to build and develop relationships across all of Kent and will support the commercial management team in it's long term goals.

You will also be required to work on occasions from our Ashford based offices but it is envisaged that in the main, it will be working in the field.

The position offers an excellent salary package and generous bonus scheme with company car, as well as ongoing training and career development plus 5 weeks annual leave, contributory pension scheme and life assurance.

A full driving licence is essential.

### Account Manager Field Based (x2)

Archant KOS Media are looking to recruit highly driven, confident, self motivated team players to work on our portfolio of products which consist of newspapers, magazines and digital platforms, you will need to be able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets.

Working with an existing client base where customer service is paramount, you must also be able to search out new business to develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities. You will be building long lasting relationships with organisations throughout Kent.

Ideally you will be from a sales or marketing background and have the drive, tenacity and determination to succeed. Basic knowledge of computer systems is required.

We offer a company car, excellent basic salary plus a generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation. A full driving licence is essential.

**Kent on Saturday** **Kent on Sunday** **Tunbridge Wells** **Your Medway** **Your Swale**

**yourashford** **yourcanterbury** **yourdeal** **yourdover**

**yourmaidstone** **yoursandwich** **yourshepway** **yourthanet**

Please apply in writing with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:

**Dawn Coady**

Group Recruitment Manager, Prospect House  
Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE

or email [dawn.coady@archant.co.uk](mailto:dawn.coady@archant.co.uk)

ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA



## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

**Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service**

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400

**For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday 01303 817150**

### BIRTHS

#### BENNETT

Alfie Beau born on 16th December 2011, weighing 6 lbs 1 oz. Son to Tony and Louise Bennett in Minster Thanet

#### BUCKEL

Natalya and Keith Buckel of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their daughter Ruby Mae on the 25th December 2011, weighing 7lb and 6oz.

#### RAI

Shanvi Rai born on 20th December 2011, weighing 2390grams at 12.24am to proud parents Roshani and Upendra of Maidstone.

### DEATHS

### DEATHS

#### HARTUNG

Franklyn George Hartung reunited with Doreen on 4th January 2012, much loved and greatly missed by his children, grandchildren, family and friends. Please contact Birds Family Funeral Directors with regards to funeral arrangements. 01622 749616. All very welcome.

Sell your car

**free**

online

Visit **CarsforKent.co.uk** and sell your car on Kent's leading motoring website

**For private advertisers, selling up to £4,000**

To advertise in this section



**01303 817040**

# Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: [www.jobs24.co.uk/kent](http://www.jobs24.co.uk/kent)

KOSMEDIA

Telephone: 01303 817040

Fax: 01303 817004

Email: [appointments@kosmedia.co.uk](mailto:appointments@kosmedia.co.uk)

Online: [www.jobs24.co.uk/kent](http://www.jobs24.co.uk/kent)

## Westlands Academies Trust



### Westlands School PART TIME CATERING ASSISTANT

To work in a busy school kitchen

Required to cover Maternity Leave

20 hours per week - 39 weeks per year

Hourly rate: £6.68 - £7.30

Food preparation/cooking experience and a basic food hygiene certificate preferred, but if you have a positive attitude, good practical skills and are willing to work, we will teach you.

Recruitment packs are available from the school or online. Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form.

Closing date: Wednesday 18 January 2012

Westlands Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF  
[www.westlands.kent.sch.uk](http://www.westlands.kent.sch.uk)

Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461

Email [swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk](mailto:swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr J Whitcombe MA

Westlands Academies  
Trust Company No 7344732

## PUBLIC/ COMMUNITY APPOINT



### ADMISSIONS REGISTRAR REQUIRED

Full time with some Saturdays.  
NOT term-time only.

Dover College is the leading local private day and boarding school for children aged 3 to 18.

The successful candidate will combine outstanding people skills with experience of sales/marketing with a keen eye for detail who is comfortable working in a busy office with an international and local customer base.

Remuneration is dependent on skills and experience.

To apply, please contact Yvonne Sadler on 01304 205969

or by email: [admin@dovercollege.org.uk](mailto:admin@dovercollege.org.uk)

Closing Date: Monday 16th January

Interviews: week commencing 23rd January

Dover College is an equal opportunity employer. Dover College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and the selected individual will be subject to Criminal Records Bureau checks at the enhanced level, in accordance with Child Protection legislation.

## RECRUITMENT SENSE

where service,  
safety and savings  
come as standard

teachers from only £155 +VAT

01622 623114

[www.recruitmentsense.com](http://www.recruitmentsense.com)



RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancies available:

## TRAINER ASSESSOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

37 hours per week, all year

Benefits include:

Final salary contributory pension and  
26 days paid holiday.

To train and assess learners in the workplace to achieve Diploma's and Apprenticeship Programmes in a wide variety of environments of Health and Social Care.

For further details and to apply online please visit our website [www.thanet.ac.uk](http://www.thanet.ac.uk) and click on 'About Us', then 'Vacancies'. If you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052

Closing date for the post: 23rd January 2012  
Interview Date: 27th January 2012

Promoting Equality  
Preventing Discrimination



RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

## 'EARN AS YOU LEARN' ADVANCED CHEF APPRENTICESHIPS FIXED TERM FOR ONE YEAR

Salary scale: £111 per week for 37 hours per week

Thanet College is delighted to offer exciting opportunities to 'earn as you learn' through 2 Apprenticeship posts working in the college's highly regarded Catering department.

The successful candidates will be required to assist in the day to day running of the College Restaurant/Refectory/Pastry Kitchens and to assist and supervise students in all aspects of Kitchen/Pastry work.

The programme will result in a Level 3 qualification providing an excellent gateway into the world of employment for 16 to 18 year olds. You therefore must already have a Level 2 qualification in Food Preparation and Production.

Additional Benefits include:

A netbook to support your studies

A Trilogy Salon voucher to the value of £20

A clothing allowance, if applicable, for specific work wear

A daily meal voucher for the College Food Court

Closing Date for applications: 18 January 2012

For further details and to apply online please visit our website [www.thanet.ac.uk](http://www.thanet.ac.uk) and click on 'About Us', then 'Vacancies'. If you require assistance please telephone our application line on (01843) 605052

We value the diversity of our workforce and welcome applications from all sectors of the community

Promoting Equality

Preventing Discrimination



To advertise in this section  01303 817040





We are seeking outstanding individuals to join our highly qualified, experienced and motivated teams, many of whom have come from industry. We offer our students the best learning and training experience and we have the following vacancy available:

## SKILLS PRACTITIONER - ENGINEERING

37 hours per week, 38 weeks worked a year

Salary: £13,941 - £16,474

Benefits include:

Final salary contributory pension and 23 days paid holiday.

To provide Learning/Technical support to staff and students within the Division and to undertake assessment and quality assurance duties as required by the College and awarding bodies.

Closing date: 18 January 2012

Interview Date: 24 January 2012

For further details and to apply online please visit our website [www.thanet.ac.uk](http://www.thanet.ac.uk) and click on 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Promoting Equality

Preventing Discrimination



## Planning applications



Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995  
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990  
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990  
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA/11/01659/FUL: Land rear of 40 School Lane, Blean, CT2 9JA Erection of single-storey dwelling with associated parking.  
Applicant: Mr Abbott Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/01922/VAR: Former Huyck Factory, Millstrood Road South, Whitstable Variation of condition 04 of appeal APP/J2210/A/08/2079694/NW/F (planning permission CA/07/01471/W/H) that the development shall provide no more than 219 dwellings which shall be laid out in accordance with the scale shown on drawing 2418:001a dated 26.01.09. (Revised scheme). Applicant: Weston Homes Plc Reason: Major development.

CA/11/01930/ADV: William Street Surgery, 67 William Street, Herne Bay, CT6 5NR Non-illuminated signage. Applicant: William Street Surgery Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02024/FUL: 46 Spenser Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5QN Replacement windows. Applicant: Mrs Peters Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02062/FUL: Upper Garrington, Garrington, Ickham, CT3 1XG Installation of ground mounted solar photovoltaic array.  
Applicant: Mr Spencer Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02071/FUL: Knaves Ash Cottage, Hoath Road, Hoath, CT3 4JR Erection of detached building for use as self-contained annexe.  
Applicant: Mr J Williams Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02074/FUL: 9 Douglas Road, Herne Bay, CT6 6AE Remove two chimney stacks. Applicant: Mr Robinson Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02099/FUL: 62-64 New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3EL Demolition of 62 and 64 New Dover Road and development of a 93 bedroom sixth form residential accommodation with associated ancillary rooms and parking. Applicant: Greenham Properties Reason: Major development.

CA/11/02100/CAC: 62-64 New Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3EL Demolition of 62 and 64 New Dover Road. Applicant: Greenham Properties Reason: Demolition of unlisted building in conservation area.

CA/11/02108/LB: The Thatched Barn, Catt's Wood Road, Lower Hardres, CT4 5PG Porch to front of dwelling. Applicant: Mr Blatchford Reason: Work to a listed building.

CA/11/02112/FUL: 177 Old Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3EP Change of use from house in multiple occupation to student halls of residence for CATS College Canterbury and extension to basement/ground floor to provide a covered entrance hall. (Retrospective application).  
Applicant: CATS College Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02117/FUL: Bartonlea Cottage, London Road, Harbledown, CT2 9AX Conversion of detached outbuilding (home office) into bed and breakfast accommodation including single-storey extension and associated external alterations. Applicant: Mr S Andrews Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02125/FUL: 165 Island Wall, Whitstable, CT5 1EE Two-storey rear extension to dwelling. Applicant: Mr and Mrs G Mecklenburgh Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02133/FUL: 5-7 Whitefriars Street, Canterbury, CT1 2TA Alterations to shopfront. Applicant: H&M Hennes Mauritz UK Ltd Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02137/FUL: St Mildreds Tannery, Rheims Way, Canterbury Application for a new planning permission to replace planning permission CA/09/00215/FUL for rebuilding of buildings 13 and 14 (former drying shed and adjoining brick building) to provide three houses, one flat and a single dwelling in building 14 in order to extend the time limit for implementation. Applicant: Cloudy Bay (GB) Ltd Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02143/FUL: Littlebourne House, 2 High Street, Littlebourne Extensions and alterations to provide additional bedrooms and facilities.  
Applicant: Mr Mike Morland Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02147/FUL: 1 Great Pett Oast, Pett Hill, Bridge, CT4 5AN Single-storey rear extension. Applicant: Mr and Mrs Shirley Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02158/FUL: Three Horseshoes, Hardres Court Road, Lower Hardres, CT4 5NZ Replacement dormer and balcony to rear roof slope and erection of single-storey extension, shed and car port to rear of dwelling. Applicant: Mr and Mrs Forbes Reason: Conservation area.

CA/11/02203/LB: Littlebourne House, 2 High Street, Littlebourne Extensions and alterations to provide additional bedrooms and facilities.  
Applicant: Mr Mike Morland Reason: Work to a listed building.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to [development.control@canterbury.gov.uk](mailto:development.control@canterbury.gov.uk) to arrive on or before Monday 6 February 2012.

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: [www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc)

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration  
Friday 13 January 2012

## MARRIAGE LICENCES

### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

#### APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: The London Golf Club, Stansted Lane, Ash, Brands Hatch Simon Russell

Applicant:

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey  
Head of Registration  
Regulatory Services  
First Floor, Invicta House,  
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

#### APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: Honnington Farm, Vauxhall Lane, Southborough Angela Bowie

Applicant:

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey  
Head of Registration  
Regulatory Services  
First Floor, Invicta House,  
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

#### APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: Richard Phillips at Chapel Down, Smallhythe Road, Tenterden

Applicant:

Name of Premises: Willesborough Windmill, Mill Lane, Ashford  
Applicant: Patricia White

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey  
Head of Registration  
Regulatory Services  
First Floor, Invicta House,  
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

#### APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: The Blazing Donkey, Hay Hill, Ham, Near Deal Richard Martin

Applicant:

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey  
Head of Registration  
Regulatory Services  
First Floor, Invicta House,  
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



### KENT COUNTY COUNCIL THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

#### APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: The Lost Village of Dode, Wrangling Lane, Great Buckland, Ludesdown Douglas Chapman

Applicant:

The Applicant has requested that on renewal of the licence the current restriction of 42 ceremonies a year, and the days on which ceremonies can be performed is changed to unrestricted. All other special conditions on the licence will remain unchanged.

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey  
Head of Registration  
Regulatory Services  
First Floor, Invicta House,  
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



## LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICE

### BRITTAIN & HOBBS T.V. & ELECTRICAL LIMITED (Company Number 04442822)

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above-named Company will be held at St George Hotel, 7-8 New Road Avenue, Chatham, Kent, ME4 6BB, on 23 January 2012, at 12.00 noon for the purposes of the nomination of a Liquidator and the appointment of a Liquidation Committee. Proxy forms to be used for the purposes of the above meeting must be lodged, accompanied by a proof of debt form, at Montague Place, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Chatham, ME4 4QU not later than 12.00 noon on the business day prior to the date of the meeting. Notice is also hereby given that Andrew Tate and Maxine Reid of Reeves & Co LLP, Montague Place, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Chatham, ME4 4QU, are qualified to act as Insolvency Practitioners in relation to the above Company, and will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the Company's affairs as they may reasonably require. Further details contact: Andrew Tate (IP No. 8960), Email: [restructuring@reeves.co.uk](mailto:restructuring@reeves.co.uk) Tel: 01634 899800 Dated 11 January 2012 Ronald William Brittain, Director

To place  
your notice  
here  
call the  
Kent Public  
Notice  
team on

01303

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## PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

### PROW - DISTRICT OF SEVENOAKS

NOTICE OF THE EXTENSION OF AN ORDER  
TEMPORARILY CLOSING PUBLIC FOOTPATH SR3A  
IN THE PARISH OF SHOREHAM

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH SR3A)  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011  
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1),  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

The Secretary of State for Transport has directed that the Order made by Kent County Council on the 1st July 2011 the effect of which was to prohibit all traffic from Public Footpath SR3A has been extended until 1st May 2012 or until the completion of the works whichever is the earlier.

The path is closed from Well Hill Lane to the stile at the junction with Public Footpath SR3B (NGR TQ 500 635) to the north of Westwood Farm, a distance of approximately 550 metres.

An alternative route is available and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact N Biddall

### PROW - DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY

NOTICE OF THE EXTENSION OF AN ORDER  
TEMPORARILY CLOSING PUBLIC FOOTPATH HL9 (PART)  
IN THE PARISH OF LYDD

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH HL9 (PART))  
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011  
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1)  
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC  
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

The Secretary of State for Transport has directed that the Order made by Kent County Council on the 1st August 2011, the effect of which was to prohibit all traffic from Public Footpath HL9 (part) has been extended until 1 August 2012 or until the completion of the works whichever is the earlier.

The path is closed from Dungeness Road and the junction with Public Footpath HL8 (NGR TR 070 201).

The alternative route is via Dungeness Road, Kerton Road and Public Footpath HL8. Please note that access to the RSPB bird observation hide to the north east of Dungeness Road, adjacent to Public Footpath HL9, will remain open.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Edward Denne

Countryside Access Service  
Kent County Council  
Invicta House  
County Hall  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME14 1XX

Dated: 15th January 2012

This document is available in alternative formats  
and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact  
Kent Countryside Access Service,  
on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm)  
or visit  
[www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess](http://www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess)



**HIGHWAYS - Borough of Ashford**

**ASHFORD ROAD, HAMSTREET**  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of essential bridge repairs, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Ashford Road, Hamstreet, from Saturday 4 February 2012 at 00.05 hours until Monday 6 February 2012 at 05.00 hours, or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the railway bridge, with no access through the village.

The alternative route is via Ashford Road, A2070 Hamstreet By-pass, Marsh Road and The Street.

**CRANBROOK ROAD, BIDDENDEN**  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to carry out a new water connection, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Cranbrook Road, Biddenden, on or after 16 January 2012 for up to 1 week or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed to the west of the junction with Mockbeggar Lane.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Chapel Lane and Mockbeggar Lane.

The alternative route is via Chapel Lane, A262 Sissinghurst Road, Tenterden Road, Benenden Road and Cranbrook Road.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT, 1984**  
**(ZEBRA CROSSING - SCHOOL, ROAD, HOTHFIELD, ASHFORD)**

Notice is hereby given that Kent County Council, as local traffic authority, and after consultation with the chief officer of police, propose to establish a crossing (Zebra) for pedestrians under Section 23 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all their enabling powers, as follows:

SCHOOL ROAD, HOTHFIELD  
Adjacent to 20 School Road, Hothfield  
Dated 15 January 2012

Traffic Schemes and Member Highway Fund Manager  
Kent County Council Highways

**HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury**

**HAM SHADES LANE, WHITSTABLE**  
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works requiring underground access to provide a new phone service, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Ham Shades Lane, Whitstable, on or after 31 January 2012 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of 52 and 54 Ham Shades Lane.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Oakwood Drive and Foxgrove Road.

The alternative route is via Church Street, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way and Foxgrove Road.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**(VARIOUS ROADS, WINCHEAP, CANTERBURY)**  
**(7.5T WEIGHT LIMIT) ORDER 2012**

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL propose to make the above named Order under sections, 1, 2(4) and part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order will have the following effect:-

HOLLOW LANE, HOLLOWMEDE, ELHAM ROAD, COGANS TERRACE CANTERBURY	Prohibition of any goods vehicle with a maximum gross weight capable of exceeding 7.5 tonnes to proceed in Hollow Lane from the junction with Wincheap (A28) to the junction with Homersham or in Hollowmede, Elham Road, or Cogans Terrace, Canterbury, except for loading.
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Prohibition of any goods vehicle with a maximum gross weight capable of exceeding 7.5 tonnes to proceed in Hollow Lane from the junction with Wincheap (A28) to the junction with Homersham or in Hollowmede, Elham Road, or Cogans Terrace, Canterbury, except for loading.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined at Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ, and at Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, CT1 1YW.

If you wish to offer support for, or object to, the proposed Order you should send the grounds in writing to:

The Traffic Management Team, 1st Floor Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX.

Or by email to [td.eastkent@kent.gov.uk](mailto:td.eastkent@kent.gov.uk)  
By 12 noon on Monday 13th February 2012.

**HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford**

**MANOR ROAD, SWANSCOMBE- (TEMPORARY**  
**PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 A**  
**S AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Manor Road, Swanscombe between Swanscombe Street, Betsham Road and Rectory Road.

The Order will become effective on 30th January 2012, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Gunn Road and Rectory Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Gas main replacement works

**HIGHWAYS - District of Dover**

**LIVERPOOL ROAD, WALMER (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)**  
**TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to repair a damaged sewer, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Liverpool Road, Walmer, on or after 16 January 2012 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Cambridge Road and Grove Road.

The alternative route is via Cambridge Road, A258 Dover Road and Liverpool Road.

**HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone**

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**(CHURCH ROAD, OTHAM)**  
**(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)**  
**TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Church Road outside of "Little Squerries" on or after Monday 16th January 2012 for a period of up to 10 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Deringwood Drive, Willington Street, A274 Sutton Road, Gore Court Road.

South East Water apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to install two washout hydrants on the existing mains. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Ruth Epps on 01634 276169.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks**

**CANADA FARM ROAD, SOUTH DARENTH (TEMPORARY**  
**PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Canada Farm Road, South Darenth between Three Gates Road and Rabbits Road.

The Order will become effective on 16th January 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 30th January 2012 and will 2 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Scudders Hill, Valley Road, Fawkham Road Fawkham, Main Road Longfield, Green Street Green Road Londfield, Canada Farm Road Longfield, Canada Farm Road South Darenth.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate drainage works.

**COMPASSES HILL LEIGH - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION**  
**OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011**  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Compasses Hill from

Camp Hill to B2027 Penshurst Road Leigh.

The Order will become effective on 15th January 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 16th January 2012 and will last 3 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: approaching from the East, West along B2027 Penshurst Road, North and East along Camp Hill.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate carriageway patching.

**PROSPECT ROAD SEVENOAKS - (TEMPORARY**  
**PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Prospect Road Junction Quakers Hall Lane, Sevenoaks.

The Order will become effective on 15th January 2012 and will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence on 16th January 2012 and will last 2 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Quakers Hall Lane, Cobden Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate gas mains replacement.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway**

**THE CRESCENT & WILBERFORCE ROAD, SANDGATE**  
**(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of sewer repair works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Crescent & Wilberforce Road, Sandgate, as shown below.

**THE CRESCENT** will be closed to through traffic in the vicinity of numbers 30 to 37, from 30 January 2012 for up to one week.

The One-way Traffic Orders will be suspended in respect of The Crescent, and Wilberforce Road from the eastern junction with Sandgate Road to the junction with The Crescent, to allow access.

The alternative routes are either via The Crescent, or via Wilberforce Road and The Crescent.

**WILBERFORCE ROAD** will be closed in the vicinity of Southover Court, from 6 February 2012 for up to 1 day.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Wilberforce Road will be suspended between the junctions with The Crescent and Hill Side to allow access up to the point of closure from either direction.

The alternative route is via The Crescent and A259 Sandgate High Street or via the west section of Wilberforce Road.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**(VARIOUS ROADS, NEW ROMNEY)**  
**(WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES)**  
**ORDER 2012**

**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3 (2), 4 (1) and (2), 32 (1), 45, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, hereby make the following Order:-

- The Order "THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (Various Roads, New Romney) (Waiting Restriction and Street Parking Places) Order 2012" will introduce a no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on the following lengths of road in New Romney.

LITTLESTONE ROAD - NEW ROMNEY

- Littlestone Road - From a point 20 metres east of its junction with Station Approach to a point 10 metres south of its junction with Station Approach.

STATION APPROACH - NEW ROMNEY

- Station Approach - On the western side to a point 10 metres south of its junction with Littlestone Road.

Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ, between 8.30am and 5.00pm and at Shepway District Council Offices, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, during normal opening times.

Anyone wishing to support the new proposal or object to the proposed Order should send the grounds in writing to: The Traffic Schemes and Member Highway Fund Manager, Kent County Council Highways, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to [TRO@kent.gov.uk](mailto:TRO@kent.gov.uk) by noon on Monday 13th February 2012.

**HIGHWAYS - District of Swale**

**STONE LEVEL CROSSING, BUCKLAND (SWALE)**  
**(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to replace rails, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Stone Level Crossing, Buckland, on or after 22 January 2012 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The planned closure times are from Sunday 22 January 2012 at 1.50 am until Monday 23 January 2012 at 4.10 am.

Lower Road will be closed at Stone Level Crossing.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Buckland Farm Road and Elverton Lane.

The alternative route is via Lower Road, Lower Norton Lane, A2 London Road, Four Oaks Road and Lower Road.

**VARIOUS ROADS, SWALE (JANUARY 2012)**  
**(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Swale, on or after 30 January 2012 as shown below.

**CHAUCER ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE** will be closed at the east junction with Homewood Avenue on or after 30 January 2012 for up to 1 day.

Access remains available from the west junction with Homewood Avenue.

**PETTFIELD HILL ROAD, THROWLEY** will be closed between the junctions with Old Hockley Road and Church Road, on or after 31 January 2012 for up to 1 day.

The alternative route is via Old Hockley Road and Church Road.

**MOUNT LANE, HARTLIP** will be closed between the junctions with Lower Hartlip Road and The Street, on or after 1 February 2012 for up to 1 day.

The alternative route is via Lower Hartlip Road, Hollow Lane and The Street.

The planned closure times are between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm, with the roads re-opened outside these times.

**PRESTON STREET, FAVERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF**  
**DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**  
**THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**  
**AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC**  
**(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of repairs to a wastewater pipe, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Preston Street, Faversham, on or after 23 January 2012 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

For further information, please contact  
Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,  
on 08458 247 800 (local rate)  
or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)





The road will be closed to the south of the junction with Market Street / East Street.

The alternative route is via East Street, B2041 Newton Road, Station Road and Preston Street.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Preston Street will be temporarily suspended from the junction with Stone Street to allow access up to the point of closure.

#### **WILDMARSH ROAD, LUDDENHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

#### **THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of cable replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Wildmarsh Road, Luddenhams, Faversham on or after 24 January 2012 for up to 3 days, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Lily Cottage.

The alternative route is via Elverton Lane, Lower Road, (Bysing Wood Road) and Luddenhams Hill.

### **HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet**

#### **CHURCH ROAD, BROADSTAIRS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

#### **THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to re-lay an electrical cable to cure local faults, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Road, Broadstairs, on or after 23 January 2012 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the junction with Nelson Place.

The alternative route is via B2052 Nelson Place, Rectory Road and Shutler Road.

#### **LOMBARD STREET & MARKET STREET, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

#### **THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Lombard Street & Market Street, Margate, on or after 31 January 2012 for up to 10 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The roads will be closed in phases working between the junctions with Hawley Street and The Parade.

The overall alternative route for all 3 phases is via The Parade, Fort Hill, Fort Crescent, Trinity Square, Trinity Hill and Hawley Street.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of New Cross Street will be reversed for all 3 phases, for the duration of these works.

The phases are as follows

PHASE 1 - LOMBARD STREET will be closed between the junctions with Hawley Street and New Cross Street.

The alternative route is via Market Street, New Cross Street and New Street

PHASE 2 - LOMBARD STREET / MARKET STREET will be closed between the junction with New Cross Street and the entrance to Market Street car park.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Lombard Street will be reversed between the junctions with Hawley Street and New Cross Street.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Market Street will be suspended between the entrance to the car park and the junction with High Street.

PHASE 3 - MARKET STREET will be closed between the entrance to the car park and the junction with High Street

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Lombard Street will be reversed between the junctions with Hawley Street and New Cross Street.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of Lombard Street / Market Street (Market Place) will be suspended between the junction with New Cross Street and the entrance to the car park, to allow access.

The duration of the phases is subject to weather and ground conditions. The exact dates will be locally advised and signposted on site.

#### **THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, THANET) (SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2012 ROAD**

#### **THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council, in exercise of its powers proposes to make an Order under Sections 1(1), 2(1) and 2(2), Sections 81 to 84 of and part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, the effect of which will introduce reduced speed limits to be enforced on the lengths of roads approaching and including the roundabout junctions and link road between them in the area commonly known as "Lord of the Manor".

Phase 1 of East Kent Access was constructed and opened several years ago and Phase 2 included the construction of the A299 Hengist Way, from "Minster roundabout", eastwards to "Cliffsend roundabout", southwards to "Sevenscore roundabout" and eastwards to "Lord of the Manor junction"; and the A256 Richborough Way from "Sevenscore roundabout", southwards to "Ebbsfleet roundabout" and A256 Ramsgate Road, from "Ebbsfleet roundabout," southwards to "Richborough roundabout".

This section of works will reduce the speed limit on the approaches to the "Lord of the Manor" roundabouts, the circulatory carriageways and the link road between them, to 30 mph. These areas are currently street lit so only terminal signs for the limits are required.

The length of the existing 40 mph speed limit on the A299 Canterbury Road East will be extended in a westerly direction from its current boundary adjacent to its junction with Windemere Avenue, to meet the 30 mph limit which will terminate 70 metres east of the mid point of its southern roundabout junction with "Lord of the Manor".

Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd has been commissioned to work in partnership with the Kent County Council to progress the legal procedures necessary to implement the proposed measures.

A copy of the scheme proposal, an explanatory statement and a plan showing the extents of the scheme can be inspected during normal office hours at the Kent County Council Offices, Sessions House, County Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XQ, Thanet District Council Offices, PO Box 9, Cecil Street, Margate, Kent, CT9 1XZ, and affected Parish and Town Councils which are: Birchington and Villages PC, Cliffsend PC, Manston PC and Ramsgate TC.

Anyone wishing to support these proposals, or object to them, should write to Diane Bourne, Jacobs Engineering UK Ltd, Miller House, Lower Stone Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6GB, quoting the name of the Order and reference No "B1425100" and stating their reasons, by no later than Monday 6th February 2012.

### **HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling**

#### **THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (A26 VAUXHALL LANE, TONBRIDGE) (40MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

#### **THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public using a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic traveling at any speed greater than 40mph on A26 Vauxhall Lane from A26 Pembury Road to A21 northbound slip road on or after Monday 30th January 2012 between 19:00hrs and 07:00hrs for a period of up to 10 working nights or until such works are completed.

Balfour Beatty Mott MacDonald apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for resurfacing works. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Yan Wei on 0203 433 2101.

#### **THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (COACH ROAD, IGHTHAM) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

#### **THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Coach Road Ightham between Sandy Lane and Pine tree Lane on or after Monday 16th January 2012 when required for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via Ismay Road, Back Lane and Sandy Lane.

Kent Highways Services apologise for any inconvenience caused but it is necessary for work to be carried out to install new gullies frames and covers. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Alastair Coleman on 07500080065.

#### **THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (HALE STREET, EAST PECKHAM) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC TURNING LEFT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

#### **THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic from turning left into Seven Mile Lane from Hale Street on or after Thursday 2nd February 2012 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via B2015 Maidstone Road to the roundabout and return.

BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to gain access to an underground structure to provide a new service. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Rachel Cross of A Plant Lux Traffic Controls on 0370 0500792.

#### **THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (HIGH STREET AND ROCHESTER ROAD, AYLESFORD) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC AND PARKING RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

#### **THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on High Street at the junction with Forstal Road/ Rochester Road and prohibiting parking on Rochester Road from junction of the High Street to the junction of Powell Close. This order will commence on or after Monday 30th January 2012 and be in place when required for a period of up to 8 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via High Street, Bull Lane, Pilgrims Way, Rochester and Vice Versa.

Kent County Council apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential drainage works. Should you require any further information the contacts for the scheme are Kevin Gore or Jamie Finch on 08458 247800.

### **HIGHWAYS - District of Tunbridge Wells**

#### **THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (A26 ST JOHN'S ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS) (SUSPENSION OF BUS LANE) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

#### **THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order to suspend the bus lane on A26 St John's Road between Woodbury Park Road and the roundabout on or after Monday 16th January 2012 when required for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are complete.

South East Water apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to install a new water supply. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Amelia Faulkin of Clancy Docwra on 01634 873084.

#### **THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (GIBBETT LANE, HORSMONDEN) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012**

#### **THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on

Gibbett Lane outside of number 2 on or after Monday 16th January 2012 for a period of up to 10 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via B2162 Maidstone Road, Brenchley Road, Furnace Lane, Gibbett Lane.

UK Power Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to provide a new service. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Derek Petts of TMS Traffic Management Company Limited on 01622 632519.

#### **THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, CAPEL, TUNBRIDGE WELLS) (SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2012**

#### **THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL proposes to make the above named Order under section 82 and 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, (hereinafter called "the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act.

The effect of the proposed Order will introduce various speed limits on the following road or lengths of road;

#### **Schedule 1**

##### **Restricted Roads**

B2017 Five Oak Green Road	Between a point 160 metres southeast of it junction with Falmouth Place to a point 65 metres west of its junction with Church Lane.
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#### **Schedule 2**

##### **40 Miles Per Hour Speed Limit**

B2017 Badsell Road	Between a point 160 metres southeast of its junction with Falmouth Place and a point 85 metres northwest of its junction with A228 Maidstone Road.
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A228 Colts Hill	Between a point 500 metres southwest of it junction with Alders Road to a point 670 metres northeast of that junction.
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#### **Schedule 3**

##### **50 Miles Per Hour Speed Limit**

B2017 Five Oak Green Road	From its junction with A26 Woodgate Way to a point 315 metres west of its junction with Hartlake Road.
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Full details are contained in the Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ, between 8.30am and 5.00pm and at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Offices, Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent during normal opening times.

Anyone wishing to support the new proposal or object to the proposed Order should send the grounds in writing to: The Traffic Schemes and Member Highway Fund Manager, Kent County Council Highways, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to TRO@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 13 February 2012.

**John Burr**  
Director Kent Highways  
Invicta House  
County Hall,  
Maidstone  
Kent ME14 1XQ

**Dated 15th January 2012**

**For further information, please contact**  
**Kent County Council Highways and Transportation,**  
**on 08458 247 800 (local rate)**  
**or visit [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)**



## Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

- 11/03780/FUL** **Moat Bungalow Cranbrook Road, Benenden**  
- Demolition of existing bungalow and replace with a dwelling and detached garage (PROW) (LB)
- 11/03854/LBC** **School House High Street, Bidborough**  
- Listed Building Consent: Refurbishment of store room (LB)
- 11/03795/FUL** **St Luke's Church Maidstone Road, Brenchley**  
- Double glazed doors to the existing outer arched opening of the north porch (LB)
- 11/03785/FUL** **Linden Park Cricket Club Fir Tree Road, Broadwater**  
- Additional use of cricket pavilion as a nursery Monday to Friday during academic year TW/09/02884/FUL - Removal of condition 1, Permission granted for a limited time period (CA)
- 11/03689/HOUSE** **Freshfields Five Oak Green Road, Chapel**  
- Granny annexe at rear of main dwelling (LB)
- 11/03815/LBC** **The Granary Restaurant Sissinghurst Castle, Cranbrook and Sissinghurst**  
- Listed Building Consent: 2no boiler flues to rear roof slope (LB)
- 11/03830/HOUSE** **Walnut Trees Chapel Lane, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**  
- Demolition of existing outbuilding and replacement with oak framed outbuilds (LB) (CA)
- 11/03754/FUL** **Flat 3 4 Molyneux Park Road, Culverden**  
- Window to front elevation and rooflight to north west facing roof slope to same room (CA)
- 11/03860/FUL** **7 Vale Avenue Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden**  
- Change of use of offices to physiotherapy/sports clinic (LB) (CA)
- 11/03859/HOUSE** **2 Mount Pleasant Talbot Road, Hawkhurst**  
- Single storey first floor rear extension and porch to front elevation (CA)
- 11/03844/FUL** **47A High Street Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**  
- Change of use and conversion of upper floors to 1 x 1 bed maisonette and 3 x 1 bed flats (CA)
- 11/03865/HOUSE** **7 South Grove Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**  
- Loft conversion with rooflights to side and rear; extension of rear patio area and installation of folding glazed doors (CA)
- 11/03857/FUL** **Corner Of Sandrock Road And Pembury Road, Park**  
- A 15m high pole, 2no shared equipment cabinet, 1no slimline meter cabinet and development ancillary thereto (CA)
- 11/03851/FULMJ** **32 High Street Pembury, Pembury**  
- Change of use from flats (C3) to accommodation for junior doctors and nurses (Sui Generis) with accompanying development including external 1st floor fire escape stairs (LB) (LB)
- 11/03763/FUL** **Sandhurst Service Station Back Road, Sandhurst**  
- Replacement of shop windows and relocation of front entrance (part retrospective) (CA) (DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROV) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website ([www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk](http://www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk)), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to [planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk) or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe  
Head of Planning Services  
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS  
Dated: 14 January 2012



## THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL Town and Country Planning Act Notice of Applications

- MA/11/1888/S** - LINTON PARK, HEATH ROAD, LINTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4AB - An application for listed building consent for the installation of metal railings along Heath Road and Linton Road boundaries. **Reason: 3**
- MA/11/1889/S** - LINTON PARK, HEATH ROAD, LINTON, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4AB - Installation of metal railings along Heath Road and Linton Road boundaries. **Reason: 1**
- MA/11/1921/N** - JUDGE HOUSE FARM, WOODCOCK LANE, BOUGHTON MALHERBE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2AY - Erection of a three bay, two storey agricultural store to be used for storage and parking. **Reason: 1**
- MA/11/1933/S** - WIERTON HILL FARM, WIERTON HILL, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 4JT - Construction of detached steel frame agricultural building with solar panel roof over. **Reason: 1**
- MA/11/1935/S** - MEREWORTH HOUSE, LADINGFORD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME18 6BU - An application for listed building consent for the erection of a two storey rear extension, including demolition of existing rear wall. **Reason: 3**
- MA/11/2039/N** - THE HAYLOFT, OLD SHELVE, ASHFORD ROAD, LENHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2DT - Demolition of existing disused milking parlour and construction of a new bungalow for use ancillary to the use of 'The Hayloft'. **Reason: 1**
- MA/11/2056/S** - THE BARN, HEADCORN ROAD, GRAFTY GREEN, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 2AP - Listed Building Consent for reinstatement of fire damage to timber-framed building (dwelling). **Reason: 3**
- MA/11/2110/N** - TRAVIS PERKINS TRADING CO LTD, COBTREE HOUSE, FORSTAL ROAD, AYLESFORD, KENT, ME20 7AG - Outline application for the erection of a building for B1, B2, B8 and or vehicular showroom use with access to be considered at this time and all other matters reserved for future consideration. **Reason: 6**
- MA/11/2111/N** - TRAVIS PERKINS TRADING CO LTD, COBTREE HOUSE, FORSTAL ROAD, AYLESFORD, KENT, ME20 7AG - Demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment to provide a new builders merchant, trade counter (B1c, B2, B8) units along with vehicular storage, access, service road and parking. **Reason: 6**
- MA/11/2136/S** - SUTTON VALENCE SCHOOL, NORTH STREET, SUTTON VALENCE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3HT - Reconstruction of ragstone retaining wall. **Reason: 1, 2**
- MA/11/2137/S** - SUTTON VALENCE SCHOOL, NORTH STREET, SUTTON VALENCE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3HT - Listed building consent for reconstruction of ragstone retaining wall. **Reason: 3**
- MA/11/2140/N** - KENT WILDLIFE TRUST, TYLAND BARN, CHATHAM ROAD, SANDLING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 3BD - Temporary siting of two storage containers (for a 5 year period) 6m long by 2.5m wide and 2.5m high. Replacement of boundary fence and field gate. **Reason: 1**
- MA/11/2145/S** - THE FINCHES, CHARTWAY STREET, EAST SUTTON, KENT - Change of use of land for the storage of 10 caravans. **Reason: 1**
- MA/11/2168/S** - LAND WEST OF, BURIAL GROUND LANE, TOVIL, KENT - Erection of 29 dwellings including the raising of land levels within the site, construction of new access from Farleigh Hill together with the construction of new internal access roads, the provision of parking spaces and car barns and associated landscaping and footpath links. **Reason: 6, 7, 9**
- MA/11/2172/N** - 6, PLANTATION LANE, BEARSTED, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 4BH - Erection of single storey side and rear extension. **Reason: 1**
- Reasons for advertisement key:**
- 1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
  - 2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
  - 3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
  - 6 - Application is Major Development.
  - 7 - Application affects a Public Right of Way.
  - 9 - Application does not accord with the Local Plan.
- Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **29th January 2012**, quoting the application number.
- Rob Jarman**, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. Dated: **15th January 2012**



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

**KCC/DO/0532/2011 - Proposed development at  
Clearers (South East) Ltd, Aylesham Industrial  
Estate, Cooting Road, Aylesham, Canterbury, Kent,  
CT3 3EL.**

Clearers (South East) Ltd is applying to the Kent County Council for planning permission for an extension of time limit to implement planning permission reference DO/08/897 for a fully enclosed waste recycling facility.

You may view this application at Dover District Council, Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent, CT16 3PJ.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to [planning.applications@kent.gov.uk](mailto:planning.applications@kent.gov.uk) or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice.

**KCC/SW/0502/2011 - Proposed development at  
Land at Cryalls Lane, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10  
1HN.**

Kent County Council (Waste Management) is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for the installation of a gas extraction system, importation of inert fill and restoration to open space.

You may view this application at Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to [planning.applications@kent.gov.uk](mailto:planning.applications@kent.gov.uk) or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX within 14 days from the date of this notice.

**Please quote the application reference numbers and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the District/Borough Council website.**

**Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at [www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications](http://www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications) or at our offices in Maidstone at the address above during all reasonable office hours.**

**Sharon Thompson  
Head of Planning  
Applications Group  
Kent County Council  
Dated: 15 January 2012**



## PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

### Notice of an Application for the Grant of a Premises Licence (Licensing Act 2003)

Notice is hereby given that Rofiquel Khan and Foyez Noor has applied to Ashford Borough Council for the GRANT of PREMISES LICENCE for sale of alcohol 12:00 – 00:00 7 days a week, late night refreshment 23:00 – 00:00 7 days a week for the premises Indian Diner situated at 12 High Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8TD.

A register of licensing applications can be viewed at the Licensing Section, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent TN23 1PL 01233 330721 by appointment.

Any person wishing to submit representations to this application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by: 06/02/2012. Dated this 9th day of January 2012.

The Council will not entertain representation where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER, PUBLIC SAFETY, THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE AND THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM.

It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale (£5000), under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application.

## PLANNING



## TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.
6. This application may be of wider public interest.
8. This application is accompanied as an Environmental Statement.

### REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 30th JANUARY 2012

SW/11/1624:

Outline application, with only access to be considered (Appearance, layout, scale and landscaping reserved for future considerations) for redevelopment of existing commercial site for residential use with garage, access and open space - Transit Works, Power Station Road, MINSTER; **REASON 3**

SW/11/1613:

Change of use of agricultural land to equestrian. Demolish existing derelict agricultural buildings, erect new barn on the footprint of the existing, erect new stable block on the footprint of the existing - Neptune Orchard, Vicarage Lane, LOWER HALSTOW; **REASON 3**

SW/11/1537:

Approval of all reserved matters, pursuant to outline permission SW/08/1127, for erection of 187 dwellings on part of the site - Coleshall Farm, Sheppey Way, IWADE; **REASONS 3 & 6**

SW/11/1607

Application for the extension of time to implement planning application SW/08/0986 (Erection of 4 wind turbines at Port of Sheerness) (This consent was development accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment ) - Port of SHEERNESS; **REASONS 3 & 8**

SW/11/1549:

Conversion of brick built barn to residential use, plus associated works - Kentish Barn, Mutton Lane/Vicarage Lane, OSPRINGE; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/11/1597:

Use of the site for a vehicle storage compound including vehicle access ramp through the sea wall, vehicle access onto Whiteway Road, diversion of an existing public right of way, two bridges over the existing water course, lighting, landscaping and other associated works - Land adj Whiteway Road, QUEENBOROUGH; **REASONS 3 & 4**

SW/11/1586:

New dwelling to 2-4 South Road (and 29 West Street), Faversham. (Resubmission following application withdrawn in August 2011 (SW/11/0770) - This application for new dwelling only) - 2-4 South Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 4**

SW/11/1589

Change of use of former intensive poultry rearing building for use for extension to existing self-storage use falling within use class B8 storage and distribution; re-cladding of buildings to match adjacent buildings; demolition of part of further building and creation of additional vehicle parking area - Thunder Hill Farm, Hickmans Green, BOUGHTON; **REASON 2**

SW/11/1581 &

SW/11/1582:

Change of use from Public House to two residential dwellings, extensions, internal alterations and changes to fenestration - The Former Windmill PH, Canterbury Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/11/1587:

Variation of condition (i) of planning permission NK/8/63/318 to allow 10 month occupancy - Hollybush Farm Caravan Park, Oak Lane, MINSTER; **REASONS 2 & 3**

SW/11/1593 &

SW/11/1594:

Reconstruction of existing unit 2 (former Sunday School) and change of use to Live/Work unit - The Warehouse, Abbey Place, FAVERSHAM; **REASON 1**

SW/11/1588

Variation of condition 3 of permission NK/8/57/82 to allow 10 month occupancy - Golden Leas Caravan Park, Bell Farm Lane, MINSTER; **REASON 3**

SW/11/1410

Demolition of existing lean to plus erection of single storey rear extension - 10 Dane Close, HARTLIP; **REASON 1**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

**James Freeman**  
Head of Planning

## PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

### GOODS VEHICLE OPERATOR'S LICENCE

WasteTech Recycling Ltd of 117 Dartford Road, Dartford, Kent, DA1 3EN is applying for a licence to use Unit 6, Detling Aerodrome, Detling, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 3HY as an operating centre for 3 goods vehicles and 0 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at South Eastern and Metropolitan traffic area, Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds. LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

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The explorer  
they tried  
to write out  
of history

SEE PAGE 41



**MAIN MAN  
RUSSELL**

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under the spotlight  
in new Kane show

SEE PAGE 44

# Kent Weekend



## A nose around

Join a magical  
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Pinocchio

SEE PAGE 45

**PLUS:** Vegetarian food is so much more than rabbit food when you visit this hutch - **food and drink p43** Keep hold of your home as you age - **property p46** Audi impresses with latest family offering - **driving p59**





## Mamma Mia Party

**For over 40s only**

Pontin's Pakefield Holiday Village, Suffolk Coast

**Self drive, 3 nights half board PLUS 99p Bar**

**Quote MP3-KOS**

**£99pp**

**16 to 19 March, 2012**

Join us for a party where the name of the game is fun. We're reviving

the 70s & 80s when Abba reigned supreme and their songs were on everyone's lips. We have organised a fabulous party weekend featuring Mamma Mia the Movie and a top Abba Tribute Band playing live.

### INCLUDED:

- Mamma Mia the Movie
- Top Abba Tribute band
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- Full Entertainment & Activities programme
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- 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation



## Jersey Spring & Summer Holidays

**7 nights half board**  
**Quote JH-KOS**

**From £479pp**

**21 April, 2 June & 15 Sept, 2012**

Join us for a break in Britain's warmest holiday location. Stay for 7 nights at the Hotel Ambassadeur at St Clement's Bay, on the island's sunny south coast. Prices based on 2 people sharing an en-suite room and travelling by ferry as foot passengers from Weymouth or Poole. Car ferry and flight options also available.

**April 21 to 28 - £479pp:** Take your car from Weymouth for an extra £95 per car, or travel by air from Gatwick for an extra £66pp.

**June 2 to 9 - £579pp:** Take your car from Weymouth for £195; from Poole for an extra £235 per car, or travel by air from Gatwick for an extra £90pp.

**September 15 to 22 - £539pp:** Take your car from Weymouth for £135; from Poole for an extra £155 per car, or travel by air from Gatwick for an extra £85pp.



### INCLUDED:

- 7 nights sharing a twin/double en-suite room at the Hotel Ambassadeur, St Clement, Jersey
- 7 breakfasts & 7 dinners
- Return ferry travel Weymouth to St Helier as foot passengers - car ferry & flight options available
- Return transfers from port to hotel



## Floriade & Amsterdam River Cruise

**Escorted Rail-Cruise**

**5 Days full board**

**From £599pp**

**Quote FL6-KOS**

**14 to 18 June, 2012**

Come with us on a relaxing river cruise to Holland's Floriade Horticultural Expo held just once every decade. From Amsterdam we cruise along peaceful Dutch waterways to Rotterdam via Utrecht, Nijmegen, Cuyk (for Floriade) and Dordrecht. Our floating hotel is the charming ms Alegria, with just 50 en suite cabins, a large, cosy lounge with bar, a library and restaurant.

### INCLUDED:

- Escorted throughout
- Return rail travel from London St Pancras (Ashford/Ebbsfleet departures on request) to Amsterdam - returning from Rotterdam
- 4-night full-board cruise sharing a standard outside cabin - upgrades available
- Entertainment
- Full-day visit to Floriade
- All transfers abroad



## Dubrovnik & Montenegro

**Escorted holiday by air from Gatwick**

**7 days half board**

**Quote DB4-KOS**

**£679pp**

**17 to 23 April, 2012**

This super holiday encompasses the regional beauty of Dalmatia, in Croatia, with its stunning beaches, cultural and historical sights of Dubrovnik and the natural unspoilt regions of neighbouring Montenegro where, in places, time seems to have passed by making few changes over the centuries.

The nearby islands offer a retreat from the mainland with a photo opportunity at every turn. Here the pace is relaxed and informal with out-of-the-way places and superb beaches.

We stay in a 3-star hotel near Dubrovnik old town with its own private beach and travel by air from Gatwick with convenient BA flights, making the most of our time abroad.



### INCLUDED:

- Return flights with BA from London Gatwick to Dubrovnik
- Transfers from airport to hotel in Dubrovnik
- 6 nights at the Hotel Splendid, Dubrovnik, sharing a twin/double room with 6 breakfasts & 6 dinners
- Guided walking tour of Dubrovnik
- Excursion to Montenegro
- Escorted throughout abroad





**S**COTT'S Forgotten Surgeon is the book that lifts the lid on the story of a Dover explorer lost to history. A falling-out led to the achievements of Dr Reginald Koettlitz, a leading surgeon, geologist and botanist, being almost entirely erased from the records.

But painstaking historical detective work lasting eight years from writer Gus Jones, who is married to Ann, the great-niece of the explorer, has brought the story to light.

Mr Jones said: "I wanted to give credit to my wife's great-uncle, who has been effectively written out of history. His achievements have never really been recognised – people have never heard of Dr Koettlitz, but he was a major figure during the heroic period of polar exploration.

"He was an expedition surgeon and scientist with a wide expertise in survival in the polar regions. In particular he was an expert with regard to the prevention of scurvy, still a common disease among polar explorers who refused to adhere to the lessons learnt by the native northern people over thousands of years."

The book has been widely praised by academics, and Dr Ross MacPhee of the American Museum of Natural History in New York wrote: "In this year celebrating the centenary of the conquering of the South Pole... it is more than fitting to have one of the unregarded figures of Antarctic history brought to the limelight of remembrance."

The doctor's first encounter with the problems of sub-zero temperatures came in a visit to Franz Josef Land, an area currently under Russian control and forbidden to outsiders.

Mr Jones said: "His experience was gained while on the Jackson-Harmsworth Expedition, which lasted from 1894 to 1897.

"During this expedition he understood the importance of living off the land to prevent scurvy. This meant shooting the game available: polar bears – 94 killed, walrus – 30 killed and birds – 3,000 killed. He became an experienced skier, dog and pony-driver and invented the pyramid-type tent, called the Koettlitz tent.

"During this expedition he met Norwegian Dr Fridtjof Nansen on his return from the attempt on the North Pole. They had a shared love of geology and maintained a personal correspondence until Dr Koettlitz's death."

His next expedition was to north-east Africa, from what was then British Somaliland, on foot, camel and mule across the desert and then up the Blue Nile to Khartoum and finally Cairo.

A gold sovereign with the image of St George

# Forgotten hero of the ice

A new book reveals the story of Dover explorer Dr Reginald Koettlitz, whose exploits had almost been erased from our history, as **Nick Ames** reveals



## 6699

**His expertise was available to Scott but was ignored as members played football rather than learn to ski**

impressed Christian priests in Abyssinia and the explorer became the first Westerner to chart Abyssinians' lifestyle and religious beliefs, which included legends of the Ark of the Covenant being in their possession.

The Amazon was Dr Koettlitz's next destination and en route to the Brazilian city of Manaus he amassed one of the largest collections of marine wildlife ever made.

Mr Jones said: "He was appointed senior surgeon and botanist during Commander Robert Falcon Scott's National Antarctic Expedition on board the Royal Research Ship Discovery to the southern continent from 1901 to 1904.

"His expertise was available to Scott in the planning and execution of this expedition, in particular with regard to the prevention of scurvy and general polar-survival skills such as skiing, pitching tents, using the primus stove, using dogs and so forth. But it was ignored or overlooked at the members played football rather than learn to ski.

"There was a personality clash – Dr Koettlitz was a serious, scientifically-minded individual and could not abide the 'jolly japes' and the amateur attitude shown by a number of the naval officers and some scientific staff.

"In a letter to his brother he wrote 'They are a different class of man to any I have associated

with before, and a class not altogether to my taste except now and then, the reason being that everything is a joke with them. Life is a joke, everything one says, and every argument or topic of conversation is turned into an absurdity'."

And in a letter to fellow explorer Nansen, Dr Koettlitz writes: "These naval and other officers look upon everything that happens and that they do as a 'bit of fun', as sport, and they do it in sporting style. There is no backbone in it, and much of it is carelessly done."

Mr Jones said: "Scurvy should never had made an appearance when so much fresh meat was available, but it did. There was little or no training in polar survival and Scott, fellow explorer Ernest Shackleton and Edward Wilson [Dr Koettlitz's deputy] were lucky to survive their trip south across the ice barrier."

When the expedition returned, the surgeon's name was even omitted from the medical records of the expedition.

"It was a huge disappointment to him and he spent the rest of his life in South Africa, where he was a successful doctor," said Mr Jones.

"Scott died on his second expedition, and I feel had he adopted Dr Koettlitz's methods they might have made a difference."

■ **Scott's Forgotten Surgeon: Dr Reginald Koettlitz, Polar Explorer, by Aubrey A Jones, is available from [whittlespublishing.com](http://whittlespublishing.com).**

### IT'S COLD COMFORT:

Gus Jones's book reveals how Koettlitz was one of the foremost experts on polar survival during the 19th century and how his techniques could perhaps have saved Robert Scott's life during his ill-fated trip to the Antarctic

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**CAROL** alone on a Saturday night with a bag of chips, what am I doing? Sick of being single and looking for a male who can handle a good women. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383119**

**SHARON** 5ft 7ins, slim blonde, attractive, funny, good job, nice home, sports car, well educated/travelled, newly single and looking for love. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383113**

**ERIN** attractive petite divorcee with own home, looking for nights in/out, friendship and maybe more with mature male. Looks/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383111**

**ALEX** attractive professional, separated, no ties, OHAC, seeks similar romantic male for love, companionship and more. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383049**

**SHARON** 33, slim blonde, blue eyes outgoing, attractive, looking to put some much needed fun back into life, seeks male 30-45yrs. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383047**

**LOOKING** to start the New Year of with a bang? Faye open minded 20yr old female just looking for fun times. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383045**

**FEMALE** 58, 5ft 1ins, hazel eyes, cuddly, caring, likes animals, drink, good food, seeks likeminded male to share life with. Is that you? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383669** ☺

**SANDRA** 63, likes cuddles, varied interests, WLTM male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383497**

**TRISHA** teacher, blonde, attractive, uncomplicated, undemanding, non materialist well travelled, likes reading, walking, laughing, seeks tall, professional male, 60's for simple joys. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379891**

**ANGELA** Scottish female, dark hair, green eyes, attractive, new to the area, no ties, OHAC, seeks gentle male for good times and more. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382227**

**DAWN** young looking slim attractive fashionable 40's female, cultured and educated, discreet, WLTM genuine male for mutually convenient relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382223**

**KATIE** pretty slim blonde female, 35, N/S, likes pubs, countryside, meals out, seeking outgoing male for fun times, maybe relationship. Interested? **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382205**

**CLARE** petite dark haired attractive female with lots of interests, seeking male for mutual companionship. Must be respectful and discreet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382203**

**LISA** attractive dental nurse 25, been hurt in the past, looking for romantic male, 35-50yrs for loving friendship, maybe more. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382201**

**SUSIE** tactile 33yr old female who loves fast cars and motorbikes, seeks genuine male prepared to live life in the fast lane, 35-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382163** ☺

**BLACK** female, professional, African, 5ft 2ins, size 12, late 30's, hardworking, no ties, seeks man for serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389090**

**FEMALE** 42, African, understanding, seeks romantic, understanding, outgoing male, 45-50 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383001**

**MARY** fun loving brunette, seeking friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382689**

**BERYL** 57, likes fishing, home life, seeks gent, 60-65. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382503**

**TALL** slim, blonde, blue eyed voluptuous female, seeks older male, 70 plus for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382453** ☺

**SARAH** 29yr old slim brunette with many interests seeks sincere male, 28-40yrs for fun times and more. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382161** ☺

**STEFF** 32, slim, hazel eyes, long hair, curvy size 10, likes cosying up, cuddles, tickles, sick of being lonely and bored, not looking for complications just love. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382159** ☺

**ANN** slim blonde female, lovely big blue eyes, great personality, outgoing, employed, OHAC, WLTM caring 40's male for adult fun and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382085** ☺

**DEBBIE** dark haired passionate classy, discreet female looking for professional intelligent male wanting mutual companionship. Can accommodate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380441** ☺

**DEBORAH** 38 missing that special someone in my life. Call me, even if you're not the one I guarantee we will still have loads of fun! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380439** ☺

**FEMALE** 74, 5ft 1ins, artistic, versatile, seeks nice caring gent for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 378465** ☺

**LADY** late 50's, new to area, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 378403**

**WANNA** spend Chimbo with a big busty bimbo? Tracy separated and looking for Mr Fun! Come on you have to lose. Call me. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380009**

**SHIRLEY** young looking tall attractive fit female, OHAC, open-minded, varied interests seeks tall male for genuine dates. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380005**

**BLACK** female, 35, GSOH, caring, loving, kind, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376611** ☺

**CLAIRE** 38 blue eyes, blonde, voluptuous, curvy, looking for professional gent up to 50yrs LTR. Call me to meet up for a casual drink and chat. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380881**

**FEMALE** likes coast walks, shopping, gardening, countryside, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381463** ☺

**TIA** 38yr old attractive blonde female, likes keep fit, home life, looking for similar genuine romantic for sensual relationship and good friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382081** ☺

**WENDY** enjoys most things in life and is up for anything, whatever you fancy? I'm willing to give it a go! Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382079** ☺

**MARIA** 47, curly blonde hair, 5ft 6ins, size 14, GSOH, likes reading, walks, WLTM kind, friendly, fun loving Gent. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380509** ☺

**SUSAN** 53, 5ft 3ins, slim, likes cinema, theatre, meals out, looking for male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380317**

**GWEN** lovely dark haired, dark blue eyed slim sensual female with GSOH, WLTM male 35-50 for fun dates and romantic nights in together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380443** ☺

**JACQUELINE** 49, medium build, brown hair, likes animals, nights in/out, coastal walks, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381439** ☺

**JAYNE** tall blonde, blue eyes, attractive, OHAC, no ties, enjoys nights out, romantic nights in, WLTM male up to 55yrs for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381365** ☺

**EMMIE** 28yr old lonely single mum all out of love, looking for good company with male who can tame a confident beautiful sensual lady. Any looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381363** ☺

**LOVELY** tall slim nurse, very caring and fun but missing that va-va-voom! Seeks adventurous male who's up for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374159** ☺

**CHERYL** young 54, attractive, petite, brunette, slim, likes most things, easygoing, looking for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380141** ☺

**MARIE** solvent, independent, likes meals out, good things in life, GSOH, love pets/children, seeks honest, affectionate male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388574**

**KATH** 41 slim size 10, attractive and hardworking, likes cosy nights in/out, seeks cuddly romantic guy for tic and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381339** ☺

**TANYA** attractive, fit, slim, fun, all I have hooded male wants! Now I have your attention, 37yr single female looking for the real deal. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381335** ☺

**CHRISTMAS** special! Tia shy pretty female 39, seeks outgoing man to coax me out of my shell, for good times and old langsynes. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381333** ☺

**45YR** old female, 5ft 5ins, brown hair, cuddly, curvaceous, love animals, music, sports, seeks kind, caring, sincere, mature male, 40 plus with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381319** ☺

**RACHEL** blonde brown eyed slim but feminine female, 32, likes wining/dining, theatre, WLTM reliable male for diner dates and romancing. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377531** ☺

**CARMEL** blonde brown eyed girl, employed with OHAC, likes meals out, walking, looking for loving relationship with caring down to earth male. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380001**

**HANNAH** 34 slim petite green eyed single mum with many interest, seeking discreet older male for mutual companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379977**

**SAM** 35, green eyed voluptuous, busty, loves football, theatre, travel, red wine, WLTM older male up to 65yrs for sensual relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379975**

**MEL** tall curvy attractive blonde, loves cosy nights in with a good bottle of wine, looking for some male attention and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379971**

**NINA** black beauty, classy 21, loves to have lots of fun, seeks older man who is willing to come up with a few new ideas for adult fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381361** ☺

**ANITA** 58, 5ft 3ins, auburn hair, green eyes, likes swimming, bowling, shows, holidays, walks, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 387416**

**KATH** slim, petite size 10, hardworking attractive, OHAC, seeking loving romantic guy to enjoy cosy nights in cuddling up with a dvd and glass of wine. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381729**

**JULIE** late 70's, petite, widowed, seeks gent with car and GSOH who loves animals. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379277**

**TANYA** 28, beautiful black single mum, very body confident and all out of love. Lonely and looking for good company with experienced respectful man. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381727**

**Hi** genuine, fun to be with male? Nancy 39, attractive, discreet, lonely and in need of some much missed male attention. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381705**

**IRENE** looking for happy go lucky relationship with trustworthy male for romantic evenings in, quiet nights out, passionate weekends away and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381701**

**KERRY** 31 outgoing confident with laid back attitude, looking for relaxed relationship with tactile male, any age/looks/size or status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381697**

**TARA** 5ft big blue eyed babe with a cute smile looking for older sugar daddy who is not afraid to spend a little to live a lot! Good times always guaranteed. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381731**

**JO** bubbly, fun, red hair, green eyes, 5ft 5ins, likes nights out, dvds, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374337** ☺

**LOOKING** for a nice soul mate, dinners, drinks, walks, someone who enjoys life, I am optimistic, happy, fun, cuddly, slim, red hair, enjoy good food, working out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379865** ☺

**CARRIE** 28yr old Christmas cracker, seeking easygoing confident character to pull me! **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380855**

**SUE** long blonde haired slim but curvy pretty female, loves to live life to the full, good wine, shopping, seeking genuine male 48-60yrs for adult friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380853**

**I** don't wanna be alone and unattached for another Xmas! Bev, attractive, big hearted, many interests, seeks male willing to take an interest in me! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376593** ☺

**KAZ** 32yr old intellectual mixed race female, likes gym, meals in/out, seeks reliable, honest male, 38-58yrs to get to know for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376591** ☺

**NATALIE** blonde blue eyed nurse, 39yrs medium build, no ties, life is good but I'm missing someone to love and lust after. Can you help? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 376589** ☺

**AUDREY** recently widowed, seeks lonely gent for friendship and conversation. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381213**

**ALICE** 30's female, slim, lovely smile, not that happy at the moment but hoping you might change that, you've nothing to lose? Call me. **ACA. Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 379201**

## Men Seeking

**HAPPY** go lucky divorced man, 48, 6ft, well built, seeks gorgeous female to share love and laughs with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383719** ☺

**LOVING** genuine male, 41, seeks similar loving lady, 30-65 for loving relationship and future together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383715**

**TV** Sarah, tall, slim, long legs, seeks female who enjoys the company of a sexy, experienced TV. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383753** ☺

**29YR** old lonely male, hurt in past, likes nights in/out, seeking good company with a female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383709** ☺

**CHRIS** young 52, caring, easygoing, GSOH, looking for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383665** ☺

**DAVID** 62, N/S, caring, considerate, reliable, no ties, seeks romantic, understanding lady 55-67 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383505** ☺

**50YR** old male, slim, 5ft 6ins, down to earth, GSOH, honest, likes music, country walks, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389206** ☺

**YOUNG** male, 55, seeks attractive black girlfriend, N/S, likes country pubs, seaside, music, semi professional musician. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383151** ☺

### L I S A

sexy blonde 31yrs, extremely fit and outgoing, seeking male for casual friendship with benefits. Discretion assured. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380879**

**TRISH** tall slim brunette, honest, reliable, affectionate, OHAC, no ties, outgoing, loves Indian food, seeking male 39-50yrs for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380877**

**CAROL** attractive lady of leisure, solvent, OHAC, WLTM sincere gent willing to entertain and share all of life's naughty indulgences with me. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 380857**

**TASHA** 37, blonde tanned and very pretty, seeks well dressed older male with GSOH for fun meals, loving treats and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 375605**

**DEREK** country loving man seeks young lady up to 50. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382353**

**BLACK** male, 58, medium build, likes sports, tv, cosy nights in, seeks female, 45-60 for love, romance and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382325** ☺

**RICHARD** 5ft 6ins, dark hair, blue eyes, 46, likes holidays, theatre, countryside, walks, cinema, meals out, seeks female, 38-63 for happy LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382285** ☺

**PAUL** 62, caring, reliable, understanding, no ties, seeks romantic, understanding lady, 52-67 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382175**

**HOWARD** 53, medium build, 6ft, dark hair, blue eyes, GSOH, seeks female, size 8-14 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382129** ☺

**MALE** 44 likes meals out, cinema, seeks considerate, outgoing female of similar age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389066** ☺

**STEVE** designer, 5ft 10ins, good looking, seeking friendly lady. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382601** ☺

**IRVING** 72, tactile, N/S, likes bowls, seeking attractive N/S female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382567** ☺

**MICHAEL** 58, retired, 6ft, many interests, fit, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382519**

**DAVID** light hearted positive 58yr old male, has high expectation of what he can offer a woman aged between 30-52. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383275** ☺

**48YR** old male, born again Christian, seeks loving, faithful female for loving marriage. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383239** ☺

**377723** ☺

**MIDDLE** aged guy, medium build, seeks male, 45-60 for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377655**

**RYAN** medium build, brown hair, looking for male for fun, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381211** ☺

**JOHN** 59, seeking fit, assertive male, 49-70. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 377817**



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# Vegetarian Hutch offers so much more than tasteless rabbit food

DEDICATED vegetarian restaurants are few and far between, so it is good to see that one has opened in Canterbury.

The Hutch offers non-meat-eaters the sort of fine-dining experience that is rarely associated with vegetarian food, which has a reputation – deserved or otherwise – for sometimes being a little tasteless.

The menu has a wide range of dishes. I started with sliced golden beetroot on a bed of quinoa (a grain that originates in Latin America and is apparently high in protein) and puy lentils.

This was the first time I had eaten the couscous-like quinoa. It was certainly a bit more nutty compared with rice or bulgar wheat and a hearty starter that you couldn't help feel must be doing you some good while you ate it.

The golden (well, orange, really) beetroot was not the usual boiled variety but had been left nice and crunchy to give the dish some bite, while there was a red beetroot dressing with rocket, just to add to the flavours.

Despite a fair-sized helping, the dish did not fill me up before the main course. My partner (a vegetarian of many years' standing) enjoyed a hearty bowl of root-vegetable soup with some nice home-made bread. She also enjoyed being in a restaurant where we could share each other's food for a change.

## RESTAURANT REVIEW



For the main, I chose the item on the menu that most resembled a meat dish: Haggis Wellington, a tasty combination of grains, pulses, vegetables and nuts wrapped in pastry. It was accompanied by some tasty braised cabbage and potato mash served with red-wine gravy.

This was certainly a hearty main meal ideal for a cold winter evening. Nothing was left on the plate, which suggested another helping would not have gone amiss.

My partner chose a butternut squash tart with celeriac and Stilton accompanied by roast vegetables and spicy leeks, which certainly smelt as good as it sounded.

To finish, I had a poached pear accompanied by ice-cream and a non-dairy chocolate sauce sat on a crunchy biscuit. This made a nice light dessert, the ideal end to my meal.

My partner chose a Kent-orchard crumble with ginger ice-cream – a nice, large plateful that needed some willing assistance from me to polish it off.

The Hutch's fare made a nice change from the usual meat-focused food I normally eat.

I am sure that whether you are a dedicated vegetarian or just the occasional non-meat-eater, you will enjoy the menu, most of which is suitable even for hardcore vegans.

Although a little more expensive than the average veggie dish found on a restaurant menu, you can tell that a lot of effort has gone into preparing the food.

And at just under £50 for two of us, plus a glass of red wine and some refreshing Biddenden cider, it did not exactly break the bank.

Judging by the quick turnover at the tables, it would be wise to book your table as well.

Ed Hill

### ■ The Hutch

13 Palace Street, Canterbury  
Telephone: 01227 766700  
www.thehutchcanterbury.co.uk

## FARMERS' MARKETS

**WAREHORNE:** All profits go toward the upkeep of the village hall. The market, which is run by volunteers, takes place on the fourth Sunday of the month between 10am and 12.30pm.

**YALDING:** Open on the third Saturday of every month in the high street. Products include fruit and vegetables (including organic), bread, cheese, fresh meats and sausages.

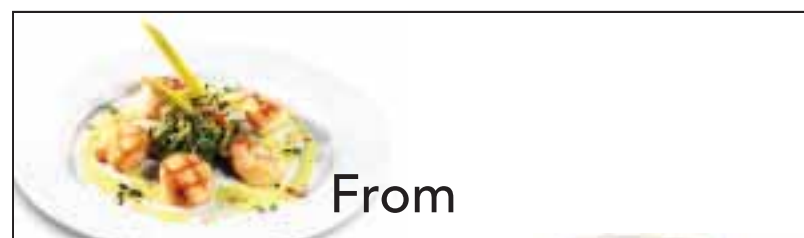
**ST MARGARET'S:** Running for over 12 years on the last Friday of the month (9am to 12.30pm). It is a non-profit-making charity and the market is the main fund-raising activity for the village nursery, benefiting the community.

**HORSMONDEN:** Held every other Friday with some 20 stalls, covering a full range of produce including meat, eggs, cheese, fruit and vegetables, bread, jams and pickles, pies, cakes, exotic produce and Italian meals.

**HEADCORN:** Open every second Saturday from 9.30am to 12.30pm at the village hall. It aims to provide good-quality local produce and locally-made goods.

**PENSHURST:** The Times recently named this market in its Top 10 markets in the UK. With more than 30 stalls offering the best local food and drink, and set against the backdrop of Peshurst Place, this hugely popular market is held on the first Saturday of each month.

■ For more information on farmers' markets around the county, visit [www.farmersmarkets.org.uk](http://www.farmersmarkets.org.uk)



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**Africa Relief Trust (ART)**  
For fund raising and charity awareness events soon to be held at Unit 3, Goodwin Park, Continental Approach, Margate, CT9 4HX and also at Star House, Pudding Lane, Maidstone, ME14 1LT.  
Contact Anthony Peers at  
[tony.peers@africareliefttrust.org](mailto:tony.peers@africareliefttrust.org)

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## Why habitat is the word Fun learning

**Port Lympne Wild Animal Park**  
Open 10am-4pm  
0844 8424647  
[www.aspinallfoundation.org](http://www.aspinallfoundation.org)

VISITORS to Port Lympne Wild Animal Park this month can go on trails and take part in activities to find out about animal habitats. January's theme days will

include talks on why so many animals' habitat is vanishing all over the world, from rainforest to savannah, and what this means for the different species. Animal director Adrian Harland said: "We have decided to have a specific theme each month at the park. Visitors can become involved in the activities and trails and find out more about the animals here and our conservation work." You can take part in trails leading them through 600 acres, finding clues, solving riddles and learning facts.

## Green tips Be a better gardener

**Godinton House, Ashford**  
From Friday, February 24  
01233 643854  
[godinton-house-gardens.co.uk](http://godinton-house-gardens.co.uk)

IF your new year's resolution is to burn off some calories, or to take up a new interest, Godinton House has a new programme of gardening workshops for 2012. The year starts with a rose-pruning morning on Saturday, February 4, with head gardener Viv Hunt. The sessions will give tips on how to produce better-flowering, healthy plants, with advice on year-round care. Running from Friday, February 24, the Practical Gardener course is for anyone who wants to learn how to get the best from their outside oasis. There will be six morning sessions of practical skills to help fill the gaps in your knowledge of the garden. The course will be held on Friday mornings from 9.30am to 1.30pm and costs £175.



## A tragic tale in song The life of Eva Cassidy

**The Central Theatre, Chatham**  
Saturday, February 25  
01634 338338  
email: [boxoffice@medway.gov.uk](mailto:boxoffice@medway.gov.uk)

AWARD-WINNING musical *Somewhere Over The Rainbow* heads to The Central Theatre in Chatham next month. The compelling show tells the extraordinary life story of American singer-songwriter Eva Cassidy. The show, which will feature hits like *Songbird*, *What A Wonderful World* and the title track *Over The Rainbow*, features popstar Maureen Nolan. The show follows Eva's life through dramatic scenes and live renditions to her tragic death in 1996, aged just 33. The show also stars Sarah Jane Buckley from *Hollyoaks* and Rob McVeigh from BBC's *Any Dream Will Do*. Tickets start at £17.50.

## Moans about masculinity Russell Kane

**Assembly Hall Theatre, Tunbridge Wells**  
Friday, March 2, at 8pm  
01892 530613

AFTER a sell-out run at the Edinburgh Festival this year, TV funnyman Russell Kane brings his new show to Kent. As part of a 57-date UK tour, *Manscaping* will see the

Comedy Rocks regular and ITV2 *I'm A Celebrity, Get Me Out Of Here* presenter explore the state of masculinity in the modern world. *Manscaping* is Kane's examination of the 12 possible shapes that manhood takes over the years. Kane won both the Foster's Edinburgh Comedy Award and the Barry Award at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival in 2010 and is one of the up-and-coming performers on the UK circuit. Tickets £17.50 from [www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk](http://www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk).



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## Victorian celebrations Joint birthday bash

**The Historic Dockyard, Chatham**

Friday to Tuesday, February 13-17  
01634 823845  
[www.thedockyard.co.uk](http://www.thedockyard.co.uk)

THE Historic Dockyard, Chatham, is celebrating the birthdays of two of the most famous 19th-century icons of entertainment, Charles Dickens and Punch and Judy. Author and Medway resident Dickens would have been celebrating his 200th birthday, while Mr Punch would be 350. As part of these half-term celebrations, parents can bring their children to the dockyard for indoor Victorian fun and games, including the traditional puppet show and Dickensian story time as well as the chance to make their very own Victorian toy. There will also be a traditional tug of war to test parents' strength.

## With strings attached Pinocchio

**Astor Theatre, Deal**

Sunday, January 29  
01304 370220  
[info@theastor.org](mailto:info@theastor.org)

THE Strangeface Theatre Company will be performing The Amazing Adventures Of Pinocchio at Astor Community Theatre later this month. Based on the original story by

Carlo Collodi, the award-winning team brings a mix of masks, puppets and music to this tale of mischief and temptation. Pinocchio is the original puppet in a pickle who takes us on a journey from his first moments as a talking log through a series of scrapes with fairies and a sinister puppetmaster. This production also includes Strangeface's traditional backstage tour. Families with children aged five and over are welcome. Tickets cost £6 for adults, £4 for children and £15 for a family of four.



## Classic music for the soul Top orchestra

**The Shirley Hall, Canterbury**

Saturday, February 11  
01227 763965  
[www.crowthersofcanterbury.co.uk](http://www.crowthersofcanterbury.co.uk)

THE Festival Chamber Orchestra will be performing its new concert Music To Feed The Soul in February. The orchestra will be joined by the counter-tenor Michael Chance, who has established a worldwide reputation as one of the top male alto voices and is equally in demand as an opera, concert and recording artist. Anthony Halstead will conduct the orchestra for this special concert. Halstead is widely known as a virtuoso on the natural horn but has gradually moved into the role of conductor and even directed the Academy Of Ancient Music, the Orchestra Of The Age Of Enlightenment and, most notably, the Hanover Band. The music includes Elgar's Soliloquy For Oboe, to be played by Ian Crowther, and Bach's Concerto For Oboe And Violin In D Minor.



## Oh Boy! It's all about the 60s Buddy reborn

**The Orchard Theatre, Dartford**

Thursday, February 23  
01322 220 000  
[www.orchardtheatre.co.uk](http://www.orchardtheatre.co.uk)

SIXTIES icon Jess Conrad is joining the cast as special guest in the upcoming tribute show Buddy Holly – A Legend Reborn. Conrad was discovered on TV

show Oh Boy! and became a chart-topper with his singles Mystery Girl, Cherry Pie and This Pullover before starring on the silver screen and the West End stage. Buddy Holly – A Legend Reborn stars the UK's top Holly impersonator Marc Robinson, backed by a band reminiscent of The Crickets in their 50s heyday. Bop to classic hits like Peggy Sue and That'll Be The Day before a Stars In Their Eyes-style performance that includes The Fortt Brothers as The Everly Brothers and Jess Conrad as himself.

# STAGE & ARTS

## Tripping the folk fantastic Los Salvadores

**The Avenue Theatre,  
Sittingbourne**

Friday, February 3, at 7.30pm  
01795 471 140

THREE bands from Kent's new wave of folk music are playing at The Avenue Theatre in Sittingbourne as part of The Gunpowder Works show in February. Rising stars Los Salvadores combine traditional music with a range of orchestral and world influences to create a multilayered blend of melody and rhythm. The group have already proved a huge hit on the folk festival circuit in 2011 and their following has grown with the quartet's increasing profile. Los Salvadores are hitting the road with fellow alternative folk acts Wheels and The Flowing as part of a three-date Kentish theatre tour. Tickets cost £5 each and are available online through [www.avenuetheatre.co.uk](http://www.avenuetheatre.co.uk) or by phoning the box office on 01795 471140.



## Basil and Sybil back in tow Fawlty Towers

**Granville Theatre, Ramsgate**

Tue, February 28-Sat, March 3  
01843 591750  
[www.granvilletheatre.com](http://www.granvilletheatre.com)

FANS of the British sitcom Fawlty Towers will be thrilled at the prospect of seeing the show re-created live on stage at the Granville Theatre... just don't mention the war.

East Kent Productions will perform three classic episodes including The Hotel Inspector, Communication Problems and The Germans. Taking on one of the best sitcoms in British history is dangerous, but the group has already been successful with previous stage adaptations of Are You Being Served? and Shut Your Eyes And Think of England. Book tickets in January for the 7.30pm show on Tuesday, February 28, or the 2.30pm show on Saturday, March 3, and receive two for one.



## Handel's Messiah The best of Baroque

**Canterbury Cathedral**

Saturday, January 21, at 7.30pm  
01227 787787  
[www.marlowetheatre.com](http://www.marlowetheatre.com)

THE Canterbury Choral Society will perform the stunning Handel's Messiah at the cathedral next week. Composed in 1741, The Messiah is recognised as one of the best-known and most frequently performed choral works and will be once again sung by the 150 chorus members of the popular society. They will be joined by local bass Benjamin Bevan, above, who has become a favourite with Kent audiences. The Canterbury group will also be accompanied by the London Handel Orchestra, who use many of the finest professional Baroque musicians in the country, making this a must-see event.

## Take Route 66 for rock'n'roll USAnthem

**Assembly Hall Theatre,  
Tunbridge Wells**

Wednesday, February 8  
01892 530613

PRODUCED in association with Harley-Davidson, American Anthems is the rock musical based on the search for a legendary star who disappeared in the early

90s at the height of his fame. Route 66 FM leads the search for Rocky Rhodes, tracking him across America for one last concert. The show features the music of Bruce Springsteen, Bon Jovi, The Eagles, Elvis and Bryan Adams, with classics like Walking In Memphis, We Built This City, Born To Run and Sweet Child Of Mine. Appearing as a guest star is John Parr, who had a worldwide hit with St Elmo's Fire. For further details, see [www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk](http://www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk).



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## Funding care in your old age doesn't always mean having to sell your home

By Nick Ames

[nick.ames@archant.co.uk](mailto:nick.ames@archant.co.uk)

AS THE UK's ageing population increases, more and more people are facing the prospect of funding their own care – and wondering how they're going to be able to afford it.

Faced with such a daunting decision, many automatically think they will have to sell their home, but that isn't always the case, says Ruth Dolan, a chartered financial planner with law firm Furley Page, which has offices in Canterbury and Medway.

"People shouldn't panic into making rash decisions," she said.

"There are many options to be considered before you go down that route and it's vital you get proper advice to avoid depleting your assets unnecessarily."

Under current rules governing the funding of long-term care, the cost is an individual's responsibility if he or she has assets over £23,250.

When being financially assessed, most of the assets will be incorporated, including a home.

The exception is when the home is occupied by

a partner or a relative who is over 60 or under 16.

"If you need to move into a care home, then generally, unless it is disregarded for the financial assessment or you have sufficient other assets, your home will need to be sold and the proceeds used to pay care fees. But there are options," said Dolan.

"These include taking an equity-release scheme, or purchasing a care fees annuity, which provides an income for the rest of your life."

"These are usually purchased with a lump sum, often once a property has been sold, but it may be possible to secure the cost of an annuity against the value of your house if you don't want to or can't sell it."

"In some cases it's possible to apply to the local authority for a deferred-payment scheme, which is effectively an interest-free loan secured upon the property."

"If you meet the right criteria, the authority may pay the shortfall between your income and the care fees."

"By assessing your specific circumstances in full, they can ensure you make the right decision and protect your assets in the long term."



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# Lovely, lovely *Leeds*

**L**EEDS Castle, "the loveliest castle in the world", is the ideal venue for your wedding this winter.

Hire the castle itself as part of your wedding package

for 80-100 guests, or choose from one of the other venues on the estate, including the Maiden's Tower, Norman Gatehouse or 17th-century Fairfax Hall.

The castle's Dining Room, Gatehouse and Maiden's Tower are all licensed for civil-marriage and partnership ceremonies if you wish to get married on site.

The Maiden's Tower is situated on the castle island. The Tudor building has been fully refurbished and redecorated in beautiful period style offering self-contained accommodation. It comprises two tapestry-hung large reception rooms, both with huge fireplaces and polished-oak floorboards and five stunning en-suite bedrooms.

For those with a larger budget and wanting a bigger party, a marquee can be erected on the lawns overlooking the castle for your wedding reception.

You can relax and let Leeds Castle's experienced staff take care of you in the run-up to and on the most important and exciting day of your life.

Complete your wedding night by staying on site in one of the estate's bedrooms. The castle has eight lavish state rooms and seven newly-

refurbished battlement bedrooms styled to various roles of the original housekeeping staff.

There are also 21 courtyard bed-and-breakfast bedrooms just a few minutes' stroll away from the castle island and within easy reach of the Fairfax Hall and Terrace Room.

Four Leeds Castle holiday cottages are also

available to book for a weekend or longer stay.

Leeds Castle has played host to celebrations for more than 900 years. A royal court during the Middle Ages, it has been the venue for hospitality for kings including Henry V and Henry VIII, governments, Hollywood legends in the 1920s and 1930s and, more recently, celebrities such as Sir

Elton John, Sir Cliff Richard and the late Luciano Pavarotti.

The castle's bedrooms are all exquisitely furnished with beautiful antiques, fine paintings and objects d'art collected by the last private owner of Leeds Castle, the Hon Olive, Lady Baillie.

Four of the state bedrooms have four-poster beds and all have individual Art-Deco marble-lined bathrooms installed in the 1920s.

The views from many of the castle bedrooms overlook the moat and parkland, with views as beautiful as the decoration and furnishings.

Leeds Castle wedding packages include a fine-dining three-course meal from in-house caterers Leith's, flower arrangements by the skilled castle florist, a room for the bridal party to prepare and drinks for your reception.

Prices for 2012 are available from £200 per person in the castle; from £130 per person for a Gatehouse wedding with 20-40 guests; from £165 per person in the Maiden's Tower, which can accommodate 50-80 guests; and from £115 per person for a Fairfax Hall reception for 100-170 guests.

Leeds Castle is near Maidstone just off junction 8 of the M20 and only an hour's drive from London.

**For further information, to arrange a visit, or make a booking, please contact the Leeds Castle Weddings Co-ordination Team on 01622 767877 or visit the website [leedscastleweddings.com](http://leedscastleweddings.com).**





# Winter Weddings



W HILE the heat of summer is the most obvious time to tie the knot, weddings in winter can be glamorous, cinematic and magical.

In fact, with the right elements, a winter wedding can be a wonderland.

With the groom in tails and the bride in a white long silk dress with a white fur or faux fur wrap, the couple can mirror the season with 'ice' – diamond or diamond-like jewellery.

For the pictures taken outside, look for wraps, shrugs and capes, or dramatic coats. An attractive wrap to wear on the day of your wedding and beyond makes a great bridesmaid present.

Look for an inn with a fireplace for an intimate winter wedding, while for a larger affair you may be able to use a historic mansion.

Unless you are sure of snow – which in the UK is pretty unlikely – avoid a room that has a large picture window. You may imagine drifts of beautiful snow but end up with a grey, rainy day.

Be sure to ask what seasonal decorations are already in place if the wedding is around Christmas – you'll save money as many sites are already heavily decorated. Also, check to make sure your site will be adequately heated during the winter months – old churches can be especially drafty.

You can have all of your favorite food, but add some winter touches like warm pumpkin soup. Consider serving eggnog, spiced wine, spiced brandy or whisky and ginger. Look for an all-white cake, decorated with snowflake patterns, silver embellishments or sugar sculptures. Ask your caterer about using a decorative snow globe as a cake-topper.

Decide whether you want to go for a silver-and-white elegant look when it comes to floral displays or celebrate the season with reds and greens.

For those who like silver, look for dusty miller, silver-dollar eucalyptus and baby blue eucalyptus, mixed with white flowers such as roses, football mums, crocuses, lilies and stephanotis. If you're looking for a brighter bouquet, consider red roses with holly and pine-tree greenery.

Decorate your tables with simple and inexpensive white poinsettias, or fill the room with light by arranging pillar candles on a bed of pine branches.

Around Christmas, an ornament makes a perfect

favour. An inexpensive homemade favour is a pretty tin of spiced hot-chocolate mix or hot cocoa mix with marshmallows.

Also consider a snow globe, with a bride and groom inside, or a holiday cookie-cutter with a cookie recipe attached that says your names, wedding date and "truly cut out for each other".

If you really want to make the most of winter, have the bride and groom travel by horse and carriage to the reception, complete with a fur throw to keep them warm, and decorate the reception with miniature and life-size Christmas trees and commission an ice sculpture to decorate the reception hall.



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# Rustic *Realms*

**W**ONY Jones, of Kent wedding company AphroditeNet Wedding Photography, has showcased new wedding venue The House Meadow at Biddenden. Located on a working farm, The House Meadow is a venue for a rustic country

wedding and allows couples flexibility for planning and styling their own wedding reception.

The photo shoot reflected the recent trend which has seen traditional country crafts being resurrected throughout the UK and retro-style weddings complete with vintage-china table settings.



*Vintage china makes for a glorious table setting*

## Let the music of love play...

WHEN it comes to the soundtrack to the big day, whether you choose a live band, a string quartet, a DJ or even do-it-yourself with an iPod, your musical choices will set the mood for the occasion.

Wedding songs are one of the elements of the day best remembered by guests, so be sure to put your mark on the day through your choice of music for both the ceremony and the reception.

And of course the first dance is all-important – it really should be a song that matters and means something equally to both newly-weds.

The bride and groom lead off and then traditionally everyone takes to the floor as the bride dances with her father.

It is really crucial that you take time to select wedding music that best reflects your feelings, your personality and the theme of the wedding you want to create.

Some of the things you might wish to consider when choosing your wedding songs are as follows:

- Remember that you will need to select music for the wedding ceremony, the cocktail hour or pre-reception drinks party and the reception.
- If your wedding has a specific theme, you should choose music to match.
- If you are selecting music for your

first dance, then really think carefully about your choice. Have a look at the lyrics for your chosen song and practise dancing to the beat of it with your partner to ensure it's not too slow or too fast for you both. Beware of choosing songs that are trendy and popular at the time. It is more important that you choose a song that is meaningful to you both.

• Bear in mind that there will be different age ranges among the guests. Try to get some selections that appeal to older family members as well as your own age group.

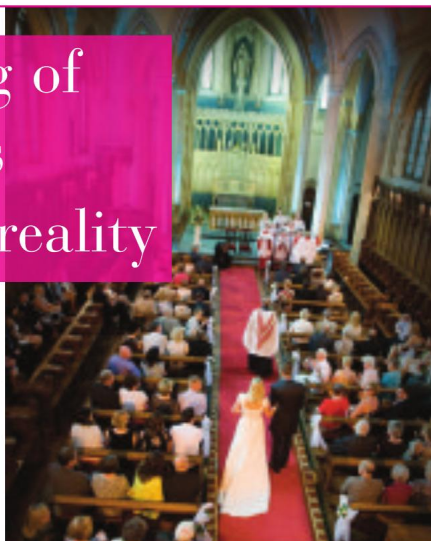
• When selecting music for your ceremony, talk to the venue staff as it might well have strict guidelines about which wedding songs can be used during your ceremony – especially in a house of worship

• You will want your guests to not only feel relaxed and enjoy themselves but additionally you might want them to feel included in your wedding day. Perhaps you could choose a specific song for a particular guest to make them feel special.

• Always ensure that you have given clear instructions to your live band, DJ or whoever else is responsible for your wedding music, so that both they and you know what music is going to be played at what time during your wedding day.

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At night the marquee is transformed by hundreds of fairy lights inside and out and with its own fully stocked bar you are able to party the night away, whether you decide on a DJ or a band, with complete privacy from the pub itself.

The marquee has seen many different types of weddings over the years and the manager Siobhan and her team are on hand to offer advice and recommendations.

For further information and more pictures visit [www.stcrispinn.com](http://www.stcrispinn.com) or call Siobhan Heard on 01304 612081 to arrange an appointment.

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*Penshurst Place finished top of the pile*

# Top Place

**P**ENSHURST Place and Gardens staff say they are delighted to have won the prestigious Kent Wedding Best Venue Award at the official gala awards ceremony at the Ashford International Hotel.

Nikki Evans, head of banqueting and events, who manages a team of seven dedicated event and wedding co-ordinators, said: "We are thrilled to win this award. It is all down to our wonderful team and their commitment to make Penshurst Place the best venue in Kent to hold your wedding."

Emily Bell, head chef with Penshurst Place's appointed caterer Leith's, said about the award: "I have great passion for cooking and creating the dishes for Penshurst Place weddings. We are delighted to be part of winning this award."

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# Yours for Eternity...

**R**INGS FOR ETERNITY consists of Ben and Janine Joseph, a husband-and-wife team who, having been married for 20 years, are working happily together in their independent jewellery-manufacturing business based in London's Hatton Garden.

Janine explained how the business came about. "It started as an experiment, really, to see if I could transfer some of my skills from my art and design background into Ben's business as a manufacturing jeweller," she said.

"We called ourselves Rings for Eternity because we believe that the rings you get married in should be the one thing that you want to wear for the rest of your lives – our design ethic is that your rings

should contain elements that reflect your personal style now but will still look good in the future.

"My engagement ring is as current today as any contemporary design you will find. Good design and quality

workmanship should last you a lifetime."

The Rings for Eternity range is a starting point for any number of unique designs, and customers are invited to view the range and either pick one of their stunning plain or diamond-set rings or work with Janine and Ben to create a unique piece, bespoke-made and tailored to meet their individual style and budget.

Janine explained what was currently popular with customers investing in wedding bands.

She said: "While platinum is still the metal of choice, we are seeing an increasing number of people who are opting for palladium, particularly men, who like the idea of a sturdy, white metal."

Janine added that diamond-set wedding bands were the most popular choice for brides-to-be.

"I have never heard so many brides use the word 'bling' as I have in the last two years," she said.

"So many of our brides want to enhance the look of their engagement rings with diamond settings that we are selling fewer and fewer plain bands.

"We have increased our range of diamond-set bands to reflect the trend and continually add new designs to our sample range to give customers a variety of design elements to choose from.

"And while Rings for Eternity's diamond rings could not be described as bling, they certainly have the eternal sparkle you would want from something that you will look at every day of your life."



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**www.froufroubride.co.uk**

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**Email: karina@dragonfly-dresses.co.uk**  
**www.weddingdresskent.com**

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**Telephone: 01795 473456**  
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**www.cakesbynichola.co.uk and www.cakeskent.co.uk**

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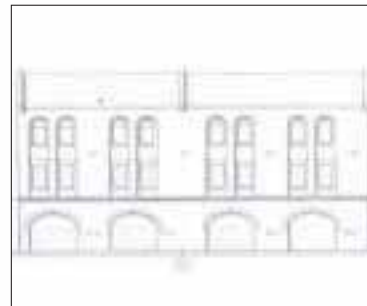
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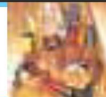
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All fun and games as Clio gets a 'sorcerer's' makeover

# Driving

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**STYLE AND COMFORT:** Audi's A7 sees the German marque offer the comfort you would expect in a executive car but with real family appeal

## Audi ticking the boxes with sporty family bahnstormer

By Sam Davison

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

HATCHBACKS may be popular in the UK, but anything bigger than the VW Golf class seems to get German buyers' backs up.

Indeed, many buy a booted Golf – the Jetta. There might even be a bit of Teutonic snobbery at work here since German premium marques have avoided them except on their most junior models – until now.

For 2011 saw the launch of two big premium bahnstormer hatchbacks: the BMW 5-Series spawned the rather overblown GT, while Audi came up with the more elegant A7 Sportback to complement its A6 line-up.

They could hardly be a counter attack to sales of Ford Mondeos and Vauxhall Insignias, but I can see the sense in offering a sporty yet practical range that fits between mainstream BMWs and Audis and their out-and-out sportsters.

In the case of the A7, you get all the comforts of the A6, but a virtual five-door coupé profile at prices from £39,995-£47,200 in the case of the A7 Sportback 3.0 TDI quattro SE S-tronic given the once over here.

You will pay handsomely if you start specing

it up, though the Sportback comes with all the creature comforts most executive car buyers would expect and they won't be disappointed with driving or living with the car.

One earlier criticism has been nullified; instead of four seats only, buyers can also specify five – a big deal for people who really are buying the A7 for its family appeal.

Cabin quality and layout is also exceptional for long family trips, though the dipping roofline makes it less of a grand tourer with four adults on board.

On the driving front, Audi has developed a bespoke chassis for the car and it shows, with a decent ride yet prodigious grip and cornering power.

Of course, the sensation is enhanced by the all-wheel drive Quattro layout – well worth the £1,400 premium – but I wouldn't expect a much inferior level of handling on the front-wheel drive version.

Some keen drivers might not like the over-assisted feel of the steering, but they will love the test car's 201bhp 3.0-litre diesel.

Matched with Audi's superb S-tronic gearbox, allowing seamless changes in either auto or manual mode, it makes the A7 a real flier as well as long-distance cruiser.

## Brits set to catch Beetle bug with favourite's return

VOLKSWAGEN caused a sensation when its Californian design studio created a classic Beetle-inspired concept car for the 1994 Detroit Motor Show.

It drove the German brand to make this fantasy into a reality, using the trusted underpinnings from the then Golf hatchback to launch the New Beetle.

A lengthy UK waiting list showed Brits also fancied the modern re-creation, which remained in production for 12 years until axed last year.

With order books already open, look out for another waiting list ahead of its replacement in April, priced from about £15,000 and looking smarter, sportier, more upmarket and expected to be a far better drive.

The new New Beetle should also appeal to both sexes – let's face it, the old car's plant-holder on the dashboard was never going to endear it to blokes, was it?

The two-door four-seat Beetle layout is retained

but, like its predecessor, the latest car is front-engine front-wheel drive, unlike the rear-engine rear-driven 1930s original.

It is also longer, wider and lower than the outgoing design, with a slightly longer wheelbase, making it look like a cross between the previous car and a traditional Porsche coupé.

The sporty interior is more upmarket too, while VW has addressed the old car's lack of bootspace.

Engine options comprise three petrol and one diesel but with two turbocharged petrol units only from launch: a 103bhp 1.2-litre with VW's seven-speed DSG manual/auto gearbox and a 158bhp 1.4-litre with six-speed manual.

There are three trim levels – Beetle, Design and Sport – with air-con and digital radio, alloys, multi-function leather steering wheel and Bluetooth as standard, with lavish options such as a panoramic sunroof and BMW Mini-style customising options.



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# Kia on fast road with Rio

By Sam Davison

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

LONG before Bing Crosby and Bob Hope made The Road To Rio in 1947, the Road To... movie franchise was a well-established sure fire hit.

In contrast, it has taken Kia three attempts to get on the right road with its Rio model, the latest finally putting Hope-style wisecracks firmly behind and smooth Crosby-style crooning to the fore.

The first Rio UK buyers encountered (2001-05) was a cut-price Ford Focus with odd styling and a cheap interior, but sold at an unbeatable price.

Its successor (2005-2011) was touted as a supermini yet looked like it still wanted to be a Focus, but the ambitious Korean marque did show it was getting serious about product quality.

And now we have the latest car, launched late last year, and looking like the real deal.

It can't match the all-round appeal of the class-leading VW Polo and Ford Fiesta – the UK's best-selling car – but it is a more stylish little car at a sensible price, with decent spec and that unique seven-year/100,000-mile Kia warranty.

Like the brand's stunning Sportage SUV, the new Rio shows that former Audi ace designer Peter Schreyer – the man who created the original TT – is firmly at the helm.

With long lead times on creating a new car, he could only tweak models under development when he arrived in Korea, but it's clear he has been fully at the helm for the latest Kias.

The new Rio appears to fit the supermini classification better than its forbears, but is actually longer and wider than the previous car – the optical illusion being created by rakish coupé lines and a lower roof.

Maybe Kia should have tried the Seat/Alfa Romeo trick of placing the rear doorhandles in

**KIA RIO 2 1.4 PETROL: PRICE £13,095**



## FACT FILE

Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★★
How green?:	★★★★★
Road tax:	£95 (zero year one)
Best rival:	VW Golf
Kent dealers:	
Canterbury Kia	08451282861
Maidstone Kia	0845 1264735
Hidsons	
Gillingham	0845 1264778
Gravesend	0845 1285584
WJ King	
Sidcup	0845 126 4801

## LOOKING THE PART:

Kia's new Rio can't match the appeal of sector leaders such as Ford's Fiesta or the VW Polo, but this stylish car is sensibly priced and also boasts the Korean carmaker's unique seven-year/100,000-mile warranty

the back door frames in order to suggest that the five-door hatchback was really a coupé, but there is a three-door version on the way after all.

Does it walk the talk? There's no denying that the Rio falls short in terms of driver enjoyment.

The steering feels light – great for the town – but not on the open road, and while it keeps its poise on the bends and has a light gearshift, it doesn't feel as taut as the class leaders.

Then again, refinement is good and our 107bhp 1.4-litre petrol version cruised happily on the motorway in sixth gear.

But as this is currently the most powerful engine option, the way seems to be clear for a bit more welly – hopefully, including a glamorous hot hatch version of the forthcoming three-door.

Other engines for now are an 83bhp 1.25-litre petrol – which is surely a bit too asthmatic – and two diesels: a 74bhp 1.1-litre diesel capable of averaging 70-plus mpg and an

88bhp 1.4-litre diesel, both marketed with Kia's green Ecodynamics package. Impressive though the 1.1 engine's economy and road tax exempt 99gm/km CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are, its glacial acceleration to 60mph in 15.5 seconds must deflect many buyers towards the 1.4.

But there's not much to deliberate on about living on with the car: the Rio's dashboard is thoughtfully arranged and I was impressed at the attention given to our plug-in gadgets – there are two 12v, plus aux and USB sockets.

The cabin is spacious – particularly for those in the back – and the air of quality is impressive, with only a couple of areas where a bit more cash might have been spent, though we need to remember that prices start at just £10,595 and there is a generous spec.

Not that many people are buying Kias on price now – cars like this new Rio deserve to sell on their looks.

## First GEAR

### MOTORING NEWS



## Lexus sales soar by a third

SALES of the all-new Lexus CT200h have enabled the Japanese premium marque to celebrate growing its volume by a third in 2011.

The hybrid is a unique in its sector and accounted for more than half of 8,269 Lexus registrations last year and, crucially for the brand's battle with German arch-rivals, two-thirds were conquest sales.



## US 'evoquing' common voice

IT'S been said that Britain and America are two nations divided by a common language, so it's probably no surprise the Range Rover Evoque SUV has been named 2012 North American Truck Of The Year.

Strange terminology aside, the Detroit Motor Show's award follows plenty of UK awards, and shows the transatlantic neighbours in common voice.



## New code for the C3 Picasso

CITROËN has introduced a stylish new special edition into its award-winning C3 Picasso MPV range – the Code (£15,695).

It replaces the Blackcherry special edition and is based on the best-selling hi-spec HDi 90 diesel manual VTR+ version – the extra £300 in price adds white or red 'Clover' alloys, black and chrome body detailing, roof bars and interior extras.

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FIAT 500



Example: FIAT 500 1.2 POP with low-cost i-Deal			
On the road price from	£9960	Opt Fin Payment (inc £285 fee)	£3987
FIAT Deposit contrib.	£500	Tot. amount payable by cust	£9881
Customer deposit	£1250	Rate of interest fixed	0.74%
Amount of credit	£8210	Representative APR	2.30%
36 monthly payments	£129	Annual mileage 6000, Excess miles charge 6p per mile, Duration of contract 37 months,	



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Fuel consumption figures for the Fiat 500 1.2 Pop mpg (l/100km) and CO2 emissions:  
Urban 44.1 (6.4) Extra Urban 65.7 (4.3) Combined 55.4 (5.1). CO2 119 g/km.

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## Rio 1 1.25 3DR

Representative example for Rio 1 1.25

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Customer Deposit	£1,590
Deposit Contribution	£250
Amount of Credit	£7,668
Final Payment	£3,378.75
Total Amount Payable	£10,317.75
<b>APR Representative</b>	<b>4.9%</b>



**Canterbury Kia** 1 Westminster Road, Vauxhall Industrial Estate, Canterbury CT1 1YY **01227 828210**



**www.kia.co.uk**

Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the new Kia Rio range are: Urban 33.6 (8.4) - 80.7 (3.5), Extra Urban 53.3 (5.3) - 94.2 (3.0), Combined 44.1 (6.4) - 88.3 (3.2). CO2 emissions are 150 - 85 g/km. Model shown is the new Kia Rio 1.25 at £9,495. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers and is available at participating dealers only. Terms and conditions apply. Guarantees/terms may be required. Applicants must be 18 or over. Price and colour are subject to availability. All offers, finance and savings are subject to availability and are only available to private retail customers on new cars purchased and registered in the UK (excluding Channel Islands or Isle of Man) between 11th January and 31st March 2012, inclusive, sourced through Kia Motors (UK) Ltd or its authorised dealers. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers and is available at participating dealers only. 7 year / 100,000 mile warranty terms and exclusions apply. Visit [www.kia.co.uk](http://www.kia.co.uk) or ask your local dealer.

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## Clock ticking on Kent's plans to join 2012 party

By David Pritchard

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THE countdown to the London Olympics and Paralympics is into the final straight and sport is set to play a high profile role across Kent over the next nine months.

It is less than 200 days until the opening ceremony in London and expectation will steadily grow between now and July.

Preparations in the county have been taking place for several years. Agreements have been signed for teams from nine different countries to train in Kent before the Games, with more deals expected to be finalised this spring.

Kent will also stage some of the glory, with Brands Hatch hosting the Paralympic road cycling in September. The party will begin in earnest when the Olympic torch relay will spend four days touring the county in July.

Critics across the country have focused on the cost of staging the Games and aspects such as ticketing have also come under fire, but Chris Hespe, head of sport, leisure and the Olympics at Kent County Council, believes the sceptics are being won over.

"Frankly I think there's going to be quite a frenzy of excitement as we approach 2012," he said.

"The community of Kent will get very excited indeed. We've been excited since 2005 when we heard the news of the successful bid, but it's within touching

distance now.

"It's more than that because it's coming into Kent with the torch relay with us for four days and we've got the Paralympic road cycling at Brands Hatch.

"This is a huge opportunity, we're never going to get the Olympics again in my lifetime and we can't afford to miss out. It's so important for sport."

In addition to the training camp agreements, Kent's sporting facilities have enjoyed many informal arrangements over the past 12 months which has seen world class athletes using the venues.

Last week, the Pegasus Gymnastics Club, near Maidstone, hosted Argentina's Valeria Pereyra, while trampolining teams from the United States, Canada, Portugal and Great Britain were at Jumpers Rebound Centre in Gillingham this week.

Martin Laws, managing director at the centre, said "We have worked hard to attract these teams and our efforts are now paying off.

"It is vital to bring the countries base camps to the area if we are to maximise the benefits of London 2012.

"We are now seeing a snowballing effect as other countries try to follow the leaders."

Other events organised during the year include an expanded Kent School Games, a youth athletics international featuring the home nations at Ashford in July and the British Transplant Games.

## Bosworth not complacent of challenge to reach Games

AMONG the county's athletes hoping to have the honour of competing in front of a home crowd at this summer's Olympics is Tom Bosworth.

The race walker, who turns 22 next week, flew out to a training camp in Spain on Thursday as part of the squad's preparations.

Bosworth broke the national five kilometre walk record at the UK Championships last July and is now focused on shaving almost three minutes off his personal best over 20K to qualify for London.

Despite being optimistic of achieving the time after enjoying the most trouble-free

winter training of his career, the Tonbridge athlete remains cautious.

He said: "There's no way I'm an Olympian yet, because there is quite a big possibility that I won't go.

"Anything can happen in sport and so far I've had a brilliant winter and I hopefully will have a very strong spring. I've achieved what I've done in the past off the back of

injuries, so I don't see why I can't get an Olympic qualifying time after a perfect block of training."

Bosworth's first opportunity to reach the Olympic standard will be in Switzerland in March.



## Cyclopark to provide concrete Olympic legacy for the county

**ARGUABLY** the longest lasting impact on the county from the Games is nestled next to the A2 at Gravesend.

Spread across 43 acres, Cyclopark is expected to attract 100,000 cyclists a year once it officially opens in May. Funding for the £8 million project has come from a variety of sources but is unlikely to have taken place without a successful Olympic bid.

The site includes a BMX track, mountain bike trails, a road cycling circuit and skate park. Construction on the pavilion continues but many of the cycling routes are complete. Folkestone's Daniel Pullen, a member of the Olympic BMX develop-



**PROJECT:** Cyclopark

ment squad, has tested the track.

The 16-year-old, who is a hopeful for the 2016 Olympics, said: "It's a brilliant facility, the amount of money that was thrown into it was worth it because all the cycling facilities are up north. Cyclopark helps the south region out. It's a great atmosphere down there, everyone's enjoying using it."

## PRE-GAMES TRAINING CAMPS IN KENT

**AUSTRALIA**  
**BARBADOS**  
**BELARUS**  
**NEPAL**  
**NEPAL**  
**PAPUA NEW GUINEA**  
**PORTUGAL**  
**SENEGAL**  
**SLOVENIA**  
**UKRAINE**

Athletics (Tonbridge School)  
Paralympic squad (Medway Park)  
Judo (Tonbridge Judo Club)  
Paralympic squad (Venue TBC)  
Olympic squad (Venue TBC)  
Paralympic squad (Sevenoaks School)  
Gymnastics & trampolining (Jumpers, Medway Park)  
Olympic squad (TBC, Medway)  
Gymnastics (Pegasus, Maidstone)  
Judo (Tonbridge Judo Club)

## 2012 CALENDAR: MAJOR SPORTING DATES

**Feb/  
Mar**

Start of Kent School Games finals

**May**

Cyclopark officially opens

**Jun/  
July**

Olympic pre-Games training camps

**July**

17-20 Kent hosts the Olympic torch relay  
20-22 Under-17 home nations athletics at Julie Rose Stadium  
27 Olympic opening ceremony

**Aug**

Paralympic pre-Games training camps, Kent's Paralympic Roadshow  
23-26 British Transplant Games, Medway  
29 Paralympic opening ceremony

**Sept**

3-8 Paralympic road cycling at Brands Hatch

**EXAMPLE:** Ashford's Jamie Staff won a gold medal at Beijing in 2008  
Picture: TEAM SKY



## Brown believes GB side are on course for Paralympic glory

ONE of Kent's best hopes for a medal this summer lies with Britain's wheelchair rugby captain Steve Brown.

The 30-year-old helped an injury depleted side to silver at the European Championships last October.

As hosts the team have a guaranteed place at the London Paralympics and with a full strength squad will be one of the favourites to finish on the podium in September.

Sittingbourne's Brown is counting down the days until the tournament begins and is delighted with the preparation

so far.

He said: "It should go well, there's no reason it shouldn't - the coach knows what he's doing and the team knows

what's expected from them.

"We've worked very hard through Christmas to make sure our fitness is up and we're coming into this year fully fit.

"The adrenalin is within everybody. We're looking to make sure it's the

best it can be and the attention to detail is second to none.

"I'm very privileged to be captain of that team going into 2012."





WALTON CASUALS V SITTINGBOURNE:  
Kick-off 3pm Saturday at Waterside Stadium

# Brickies aiming to build on Whitehawk win at Casuals

By Fred Atkins

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AFTER rediscovering their footballing mojo last week with a win which surprised even their own manager, Sittingbourne travel to Walton Casuals in Ryman Division One South this weekend looking to gather some momentum.

The Brickies ended a run of six league games without a win by beating a highly-fancied Whitehawk side 2-0 on Saturday.

Bourne Park boss Joe Dowley rated the win as the team's most impressive performance since he took over as manager from Richard Brady - whose last game in charge was a 1-1 draw against Walton Casuals back in September.

Both sides have changed managers since then, with Mick Sullivan taking over at Walton after Neil Shipperley, the former Chelsea and Crystal Palace striker, resigned in October.

Under Sullivan the Casuals began climbing the table but they are now 16th, two places below Sittingbourne, after losing their last three games, including a shock 6-1 defeat to Crawley Down on Saturday.

Dowley said: "I've always found Walton tough opposition to be honest and they've got some decent players. We'll also have Jonathan Hogg suspended and he'll be a bit of a miss, but I'm hoping to bring in a new centre half to cover for him."

Whitehawk went into last week's game second in the table on the back of a win over leaders Bognor Regis Town in their previous game.

The Brickies suffered an early blow when Jack



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

**OVERDUE:** Sittingbourne (in red/black) ended a six-game winless streak last weekend

Hooper was forced off when his knee gave way after just three minutes, but the home side seldom looked troubled in the first half.

On 58 minutes they went in front when Joe Goldsmith split the defence and Joe Nwoko rolled the ball under the visitors' keeper.

Home stopper Matt Reed made a smart save to thwart Kyle Vassell, before Bryan Glover dou-

bled the lead 12 minutes from time.

Dowley said: "We defended well, but we needed to against a decent side and we took the couple of chances we had, which we haven't been doing lately."

"Getting a clean sheet was pleasing. The whole team performed well but if I had to single anyone out Cedric Abraham and Joe Nwoko up front."

WOODSTOCK SPORTS V ERITH TOWN:  
Kick-off 7.45pm Wednesday at Woodstock Park

## Taylor urges Woodstock to learn ahead of quarter-final

THERE is an early chance for revenge on Wednesday as Woodstock Sports host Erith Town in the quarter-finals of the Kent League Cup, 10 days after Town beat them 3-1 in the Kent League.

Player-manager Ben Taylor will miss the first leg through suspension, but Lewis Rivett returns and Tony Clark should have recovered from the dead leg which kept him on the bench last Saturday.

Taylor is hoping his side will have learned from the defeat, by the time hostilities resume.

"We gave them too much time and too much respect," Taylor conceded. "I don't want to take anything away from them, they're a good footballing side, but we should have been 2-0 up at half-time and in the second half we just didn't have the same energy."

Woodstock dominated the first half at the Erith Stadium, taking a 14th-minute lead when experienced striker Lynden Rowland took possession on the edge of the box and drilled the ball into the corner.

Five minutes before the break Russell Jeffery hit the bar and the



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

**AVAILABLE:** Tony Clark

miss proved crucial as Alex Tiesse equalised on 57 minutes before Adam Williams made it 2-1, 12 minutes later.

As Woodstock chased an equaliser they were picked off on the break and conceded a penalty which Liam Burgess converted.

RUGBY UNION

## Strong finish comes too late for rusty Sheppey

SHEPPEY travel to Ashford in London 3 South East on Saturday looking to atone for a disappointing defeat to Uckfield at The Ditch last weekend.

The Islanders dropped to seventh in the table after a lacklustre first-half performance gave them too much to do in the second period, going down 19-15.

"We got back on track after half-time," chairman Neil Goulding said. "We've got injuries and problems which all teams have and started slowly which was inevitable after the [Christmas] break. Then we began to claw it back but couldn't quite finish them off."

Sheppey fell behind midway through the half when Uckfield took a quick tap penalty and scored an unconverted try.

With Sheppey's backs unable to make any headway, Uckfield delivered a knock-out blow just before half-time.

With the half winding down the Sussex side scored a converted try and then hit Sheppey straight from the kick-off, pouncing on another quick tap penalty for a converted try which made it 19-0 at the



**SLOW STARTERS:** Sheppey

interval.

A drastic improvement in the second half saw Aaron Mills touch down on 47 minutes and again on the hour to make it 19-10. Jamie Marzetti then scored an unconverted try two minutes from time.

In Kent 1 Sittingbourne beat Cranbrook 45-5 last week to stay seventh in the table.

They will be optimistic of making it back-to-back wins on Saturday when they travel to a New Ash Green side who have won just three games this season.

## NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL FOCUS WITH FRED ATKINS

### The downside of all-seater stadia

**“** DURING the peak of its powers in the mid-1980s, Spitting Image carried a sketch showing Norman Tebbit working in the ticket office of a theatre.

A customer approached him and asked if he had any restrictive views.

"Yes, hanging's too good for them," he replied. "Bring back National Service for the unemployed."

Spitting Image's modus operandi was to take a subject's most extreme characteristics and twist them out of all recognition, to produce a grotesque caricature.

Tebbit was thus portrayed as a donkey-jacketed thug, which, although inaccurate, had a certain kind of karma to it given the way his government demonised football fans in the 1980s.

Anyone who thinks there weren't serious issues with fan behaviour during the era is deluded, but the overwhelming majority of fans then, as now, were law-abiding citizens.

The strategy of treating supporters as if they were rats who needed to be caged arguably contributed to the Hillsborough disaster, but instead fans were blamed when Kelvin McKenzie ran a front page editorial in the Sun labelling Liverpool fans as corpse robbers and worse.

Clearly something needed to be done to prevent a repeat, but the Taylor Report's decree that professional football should have all-seater stadia had its downsides.

Chief among them was the fact that you could no longer choose who you wanted to stand or sit with.

An acquaintance took a child to the Gillingham v Stoke cup tie last Saturday, but left before the end because of the language used by "fans" nearby.

Under Priestfield's regulations, the miscreants could have been ejected, but the innocent fan is placed in an invidious situation. Stewards can't take action unless they're informed and the fan can't always do this without exposing themselves to even more intimidation.

Some clubs operate a text hotline to report anti-social behaviour but even this is an exercise in stable-door shutting if you're unlucky enough to be in a crowd when one idiot decides to let rip.

The problem was compounded because the Stoke game was a sell-out, making it impossible to move to alternative seating.

It's fair to say that this isn't likely to be a problem at any of Kent's non-league grounds any time soon. Consenting adults do exchange industrial strength language from time-to-time and occasionally it's audible where it shouldn't be.

The restrictive view, in both senses of the phrase, remains one of the banes of the modern game and if you look hard enough, you can still find people who make "Normo Tebbs" look like the Dalai Lama.

The advantage of the non-league game is if you are unlucky to get within earshot of someone swearing like a fishwife, you can walk away. **”**

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